

# CHARLIE'S STORY





MY NAME IS  
CHARLIE TRUEMAN.

I'M ABOUT TO TELL  
MY BOYFRIEND THAT I  
USED TO BE A BOY.

THIS IS MY STORY.

MY STORY STARTS  
BEFORE I WAS BORN.

WHILE MY MUM WAS PREGNANT  
WITH ME, MY DAD DIED IN A CAR CRASH.

I WAS BORN PREMATURELY DUE  
TO THE STRESS IT CAUSED HER.

I DIDN'T KNOW HIM SO I'VE NEVER  
FELT BAD ABOUT LOSING HIM, BUT  
I KNOW MY MUM REALLY LOVED HIM.

WITH THE MONEY MUM GOT FROM  
HIS INSURANCE SHE BOUGHT A HOUSE.  
THIS IS WHERE I GREW UP

I WAS PRETTY HAPPY  
GROWING UP ACTUALLY.

OKAY- SMILE  
FOR ME!

PRETTY WEIRD,  
BUT HAPPY.

I NEVER REALLY GREW UP  
BEING TOLD I HAD TO BE A BOY.

SHE STARTED HER COSTUME  
BUSINESS WHEN I WAS AROUND  
THAT AGE AND LET ME HELP  
AND TRY THINGS ON  
WHEN I COULD.

MY MUM NEVER REALLY  
CARED SO SHE WAS HAPPY  
TO LET ME WEAR WHAT I  
WANTED AND PLAY WITH  
WHATEVER TOYS I LIKED.

THE PROBLEM WAS SCHOOL  
AND OTHER ADULTS.

YOU'RE SO  
STUPID YOU CAN'T  
EVEN FIGURE OUT  
YOU'RE WEARING  
GIRL'S  
CLOTHES.

PEOPLE FOUND IT WEIRD,  
AND THE OTHER  
CHILDREN WERE CRUEL.

AND I SOON LEARNT THAT IF YOU  
WANTED FRIENDS YOU HAD TO FIT IN

STUPID  
UGLY  
THING!

SO I WORE BOYS CLOTHES TO  
SCHOOL BUT CHANGED WHEN I GOT  
HOME AND NO ONE ELSE COULD SEE.

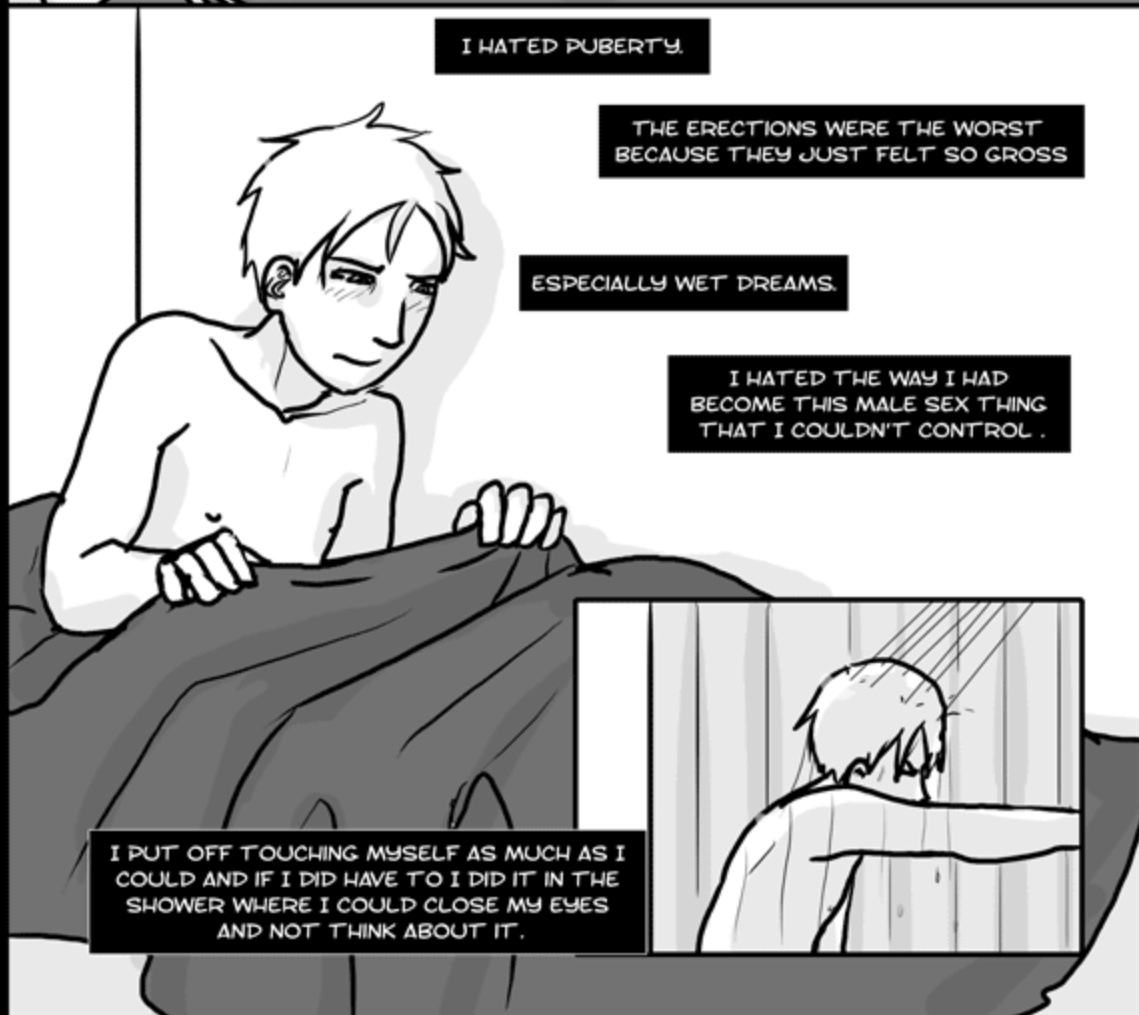
AND I STOPPED  
TALKING ABOUT IT.





SECONDARY SCHOOL WAS BETTER FOR ME BECAUSE I STARTED OUT FRESH WITH PEOPLE I DIDN'T KNOW.

I MANAGED TO MAKE A FEW CLOSE FRIENDS OR AT LEAST PEOPLE WHO WOULD EAT LUNCH WITH ME.



I HATED PUBERTY.

THE ERECTIONS WERE THE WORST BECAUSE THEY JUST FELT SO GROSS

ESPECIALLY WET DREAMS.

I HATED THE WAY I HAD BECOME THIS MALE SEX THING THAT I COULDN'T CONTROL.

I PUT OFF TOUCHING MYSELF AS MUCH AS I COULD AND IF I DID HAVE TO I DID IT IN THE SHOWER WHERE I COULD CLOSE MY EYES AND NOT THINK ABOUT IT.

I STARTED HAVING A CRUSH ON A BOY I WAS FRIENDS WITH AT THE TIME.



WE SHARED ENGLISH TOGETHER AND HE WAS FUNNY AND HAD FRECKLES ACROSS HIS NOSE.

I LIKED THE WAY HE MADE ME FEEL SMALL NEXT TO HIM.

I THOUGHT I FELT THE SIGNS THAT HE LIKED ME TOO, BUT I GUESS I WAS JUST BEING HOPEFUL.

WHAT?!  
THAT'S  
FUCKING  
GROSS!

DANIEL-

YOU STAY  
THE FUCK AWAY  
FROM ME!

THE NEXT DAY EVERYONE IN SCHOOL KNEW I WAS GAY

I HEAR  
THE WEIRD KID  
IS ACTUALLY  
GAY



AND I LOST WHAT FRIENDS I THOUGHT I HAD.

MY MUM FOUND OUT AFTER THE SCHOOL GOT INVOLVED WITH ALL THE BULLYING.



I HADN'T REALLY TOLD HER BECAUSE IT FELT AWKWARD AND I DIDN'T REALLY WANT THE SEX TALK FROM HER.

HEY, LOVE IS LOVE. NEVER BE ASHAMED OF IT BECAUSE IT'S THE BEST YOU'LL EVER FEEL.

IF YOU EVER WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT I'M HERE, AND I'LL TRY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE.

BUT SHE WAS ACTUALLY REALLY GOOD ABOUT IT.



IT DIDN'T REALLY STOP PEOPLE BEING HORRIBLE, BUT IT WAS NICE TO HAVE SOMEONE ON MY SIDE AT LEAST.



AFTER THEN I STARTED GROWING MY HAIR OUT BECAUSE I REALISED IT DIDN'T MATTER WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT OF ME.

FAG!

AROUND THIS TIME MY STOMACH STARTED PLAYING UP A LOT.

MY STOMACH HURTS.

... YOU'RE NOT SAYING THIS TO GET OUT OF SCHOOL ARE YOU?

NO, IT ACTUALLY HURTS. I WANT TO SEE A DOCTOR

I WENT TO THE DOCTORS ABOUT IT AND THEY PUT IT DOWN TO STRESS FROM BULLYING AND PUT ME ON ALL SORTS OF TABLETS TO TRY AND MAKE IT BETTER.

EVENTUALLY BOTH ME AND MUM GOT FED UP AND I GOT TAKEN TO ONE OF HER HERBAL PLACES TO FIX IT UP

I SEE YOU ARE WEAK TO THIS COLOUR!

ONE WEIRD TEST LATER AND I WAS TOLD I HAD A WHEAT ALLERGY

WITH THE RIGHT FOOD NOW HE SHOULD SHOOT UP IN NO TIME!

WE TOOK THAT BACK TO THE DOCTORS, I GOT A BLOOD TEST, AND YEAH, TURNS OUT I WAS ALLERGIC TO WHEAT.


AND THAT THE LACK OF NUTRIENT'S HAD BEEN CAUSING ME TO NOT GROW AS MUCH AS I SHOULD.



HOW'S THAT?

...OKAY ACTUALLY

IT WAS SORT OF GOOD AS THE SECOND I STOPPED EATING WHEAT MY STOMACH STOPPED HURTING



OH MERCY, I HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT I CAN COOK TOMORROW NOW...

BUT I GOT REALLY UPSET AT THE IDEA OF GROWING.


I LIKED BEING SMALL AND DELICATE.

PUBERTY SO FAR HAD BEEN MORE OF A SEXUAL AWAKENING FOR ME,

I HADN'T REALLY STARTED TO GET HAIRY AND MY VOICE HADN'T DROPPED-

BUT FUCK, THE IDEA THAT IT MIGHT WAS TERRIFYING.

I SORT OF BECAME BORDERLINE ANOREXIC AT THAT POINT.



HERE'S YOUR LUNCH SWEETIE!

I STARTED EATING LESS BECAUSE I FIGURED THAT IF I DIDN'T EAT MY BODY COULDN'T GROW.

BEING HUNGRY ALL THE TIME HURT, BUT I WANTED TO PUNISH MY STUPID BODY.

IT BECAME A POWER GAME TOO-

HOW MUCH I ATE WAS ONE OF THE FEW THINGS IN MY LIFE I COULD CONTROL, AND IT MADE ME FEEL A BIT MORE LIKE I COULD HANDLE THINGS.

BUT HE ALWAYS  
EATS ALL THE LUNCH  
I GIVE HIM-  
DON'T YOU  
CHARLIE?

UMM, WELL,  
UM...

I STARTED LOOSING WEIGHT  
AND MUM NOTICED.

WE WENT BACK TO THE DOCTORS  
AND AFTER SOME MORTIFYING TALKS  
I BEGAN SEEING A COUNSELLOR.

I HAVE NO IDEA  
WHAT I'M SUPPOSED  
TO TALK ABOUT.

ANYTHING YOU WANT TO TALK  
TO ME ABOUT. THESE SESSIONS ARE  
FOR YOU,

I'M JUST HERE AS A GUIDE.

THE WOMAN I TALKED TO  
WAS VERY NICE AND I DID FEEL  
BETTER AFTER SESSIONS,

BUT IT WAS THROUGH THE  
NHS SO I ONLY GOT TO SEE  
HER A COUPLE OF TIMES.

UM  
OKAY...

MAYBE LET'S START  
WITH HOW YOUR DAY  
WAS TODAY?

PRETTY SHIT  
REALLY.

WE TALKED A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HOW I FELT  
GENDER WISE, BUT I WAS PRETTY UNSURE ABOUT  
HOW I REALLY FELT ABOUT THINGS SO SHE DIDN'T  
REFER ME TO SOMEONE WHO HAD MORE EXPERIENCE  
WITH PEOPLE WITH GENDER ISSUES.

WOULD YOU  
LIKE TO TELL ME  
ABOUT IT?

THE GOOD THING THAT CAME FROM COUNSELLING WAS THAT SHE RECOMMENDED SOME ONLINE SOCIAL SUPPORT SITES FOR ME, WHICH MEANT MUM GOT ME MY OWN COMPUTER.

I THOUGHT SHE WOULD THROW A FIT ABOUT IT, BUT SHE WAS ACTUALLY REALLY COOL ABOUT LETTING ME DO MY OWN THING.

OKAY, YOU SET UP YOUR OWN PASSWORD SO I CAN'T GET IN THERE.

DON'T LET YOURSELF GET PICKED UP BY A PAEDOPHILE.

NEVER GIVE OUT YOUR FULL NAME, ADDRESS OR ANY OF YOUR PASSWORDS,

I JOINED A COUPLE OF FORUMS AND STARTED TALKING TO PEOPLE A BIT LIKE ME.

AND TRY TO AVOID SITES THAT ARE MISOGYNISTIC

MY PROFILES ONLINE WERE ALL FEMALE, WHICH MADE ME FEEL GUILTY LIKE I WAS LYING BUT REALLY GOOD AT THE SAME TIME.



I FOUND A LOT ON THE INTERNET WHICH HELPED ME REALISE WHO I WAS.

I KNEW I WAS TRANS FROM THE MOMENT I HEARD THE WORD, BUT FINDING OUT WHAT IT WAS LIKE FOR OTHER PEOPLE JUST CONFIRMED IT.

THEY DO MAKE HORMONE BLOCKERS WHICH WOULD HAVE STOPPED PUBERTY FOR ME,

AND THE NHS EVEN HAD A NICE LEAFLET ALL ABOUT THEM... WITH A NOTE THAT THEY WEREN'T AVAILABLE IN THE UK AT THE BOTTOM.

I COULD STILL TRANSITION SOCIALLY WITHOUT THINGS LIKE HORMONES IF I HAD MY MUM'S PERMISSION TO CHANGE MY NAME AND THINGS.

I KNEW IF I CAME OUT AT SCHOOL I WOULD GET SLAUGHTERED.

MY ONLY HOPE WAS TO GET ALL MY DOCUMENTS CHANGED AND CHANGE SCHOOLS,



AND START A NEW LIFE

SO I STARTED WORK ON BEING ABLE TO PASS AS A GIRL.

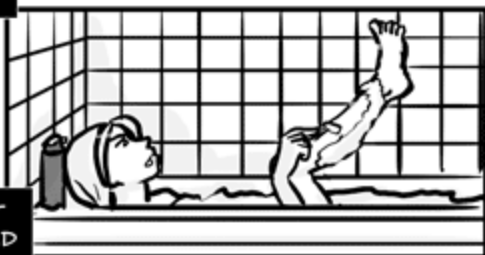
I STARTED COACHING MY VOICE TO CATCH IT AS IT BEGAN TO BREAK.

I LEARNT ABOUT SHAVING, I PLUCKED AND THREADED THE HAIR ON MY FACE AND LEARNT HOW TO APPLY MAKEUP

I GREW MY HAIR OUT EVEN MORE AND LEARNT TO WALK IN HEELS.



THE PROBLEM WAS THAT THE NHS DIDN'T TREAT ANYONE UNDER 16 EXCEPT TO GIVE THEM COUNSELLING, SO IT WAS POINTLESS TO TRY.



BUYING THINGS WAS REALLY AWKWARD.



UM...  
SHE'S ABOUT  
MY SIZE..  
I THINK.

I HIGHLY  
RECOMMEND  
HER COMING IN  
TO GET MEASURED  
HERSELF.

UM...  
I'LL JUST BUY  
THIS AND SHE CAN  
RETURN IT IF IT  
DOESN'T FIT...

I HAD TO TAKE TRIPS OUT TO A  
NEARBY CITY SO NO ONE FROM MY  
SCHOOL WOULD CATCH ME.


THE REST I BOUGHT FABRIC FOR  
AND MADE OR BOUGHT ONLINE.  
CHARITY SHOPS WERE ALSO REALLY GOOD.

I GOT A VERY MUCH INTO GOTHIC LOUTA FASHION  
AS THE SKIRT'S HELPED DISGUISE MY SHAPE,  
AND IT WASN'T WEIRD FOR ME TO WEAR A CORSET.

I ALSO LIKED THE WAY IT MADE ME  
FEEL A BIT LIKE A PRINCESS AND  
SOMETHING CUTE AND SWEET.



IT ALSO MEANT I COULD WEAR  
THINGS LIKE STOCKINGS AND SUSPENDERS  
WITHOUT THEM BEING OUT OF PLACE.



SEXY UNDERWEAR IS  
SOMETHING I USED TO FIGHT  
WITH MYSELF A LOT OVER.

MY FIRST EXPERIENCE  
WITH TRANS STUFF WAS  
TRANSVESTITES  
IN THE MEDIA.

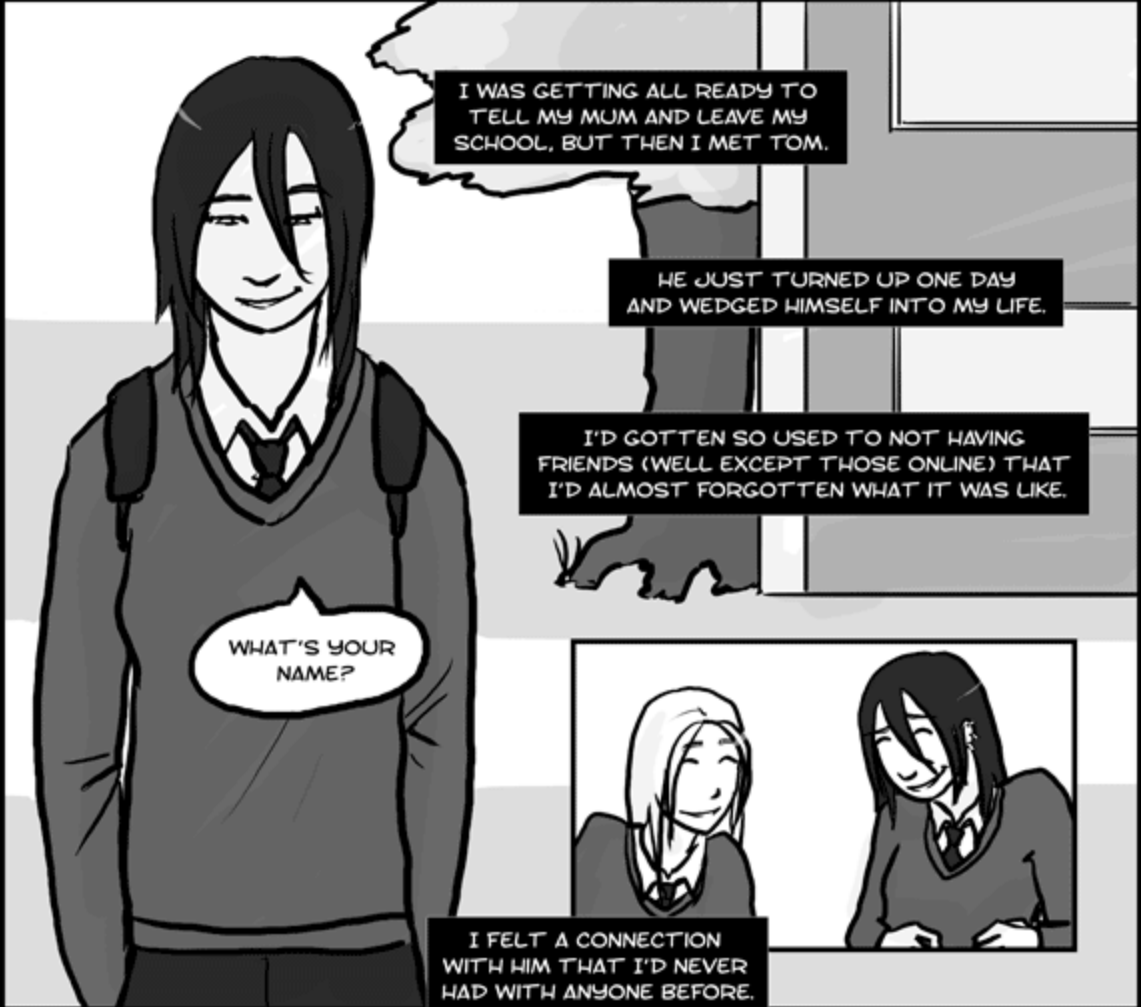
THEY WORE WOMEN'S CLOTHING  
BECAUSE THEY GOT OFF ON IT, BUT  
THAT WASN'T REALLY HOW I FELT.

I WANTED TO BE A  
WOMAN ALL THE TIME.

BUT I FELT GUILTY BECAUSE IF  
I EVER TOUCHED MYSELF I HAD  
TO WEAR LINGERIE TO DO IT.

BEING COMPLETELY NAKED MEANT  
I COULD FEEL MY BOY BODY AND ALL  
THE AWKWARD SHARP ANGLES AND I  
COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO DO IT.

BUT IF I DRESSED UP I COULD LAY  
BACK AND IMAGINE SOMEONE ELSE AND THINK  
ABOUT THEM FINDING ME SEXY AS A WOMAN,  
AND IT HELPED ME FORGET LONG  
ENOUGH TO ENJOY MYSELF.




I WAS GETTING ALL READY TO TELL MY MUM AND LEAVE MY SCHOOL, BUT THEN I MET TOM.

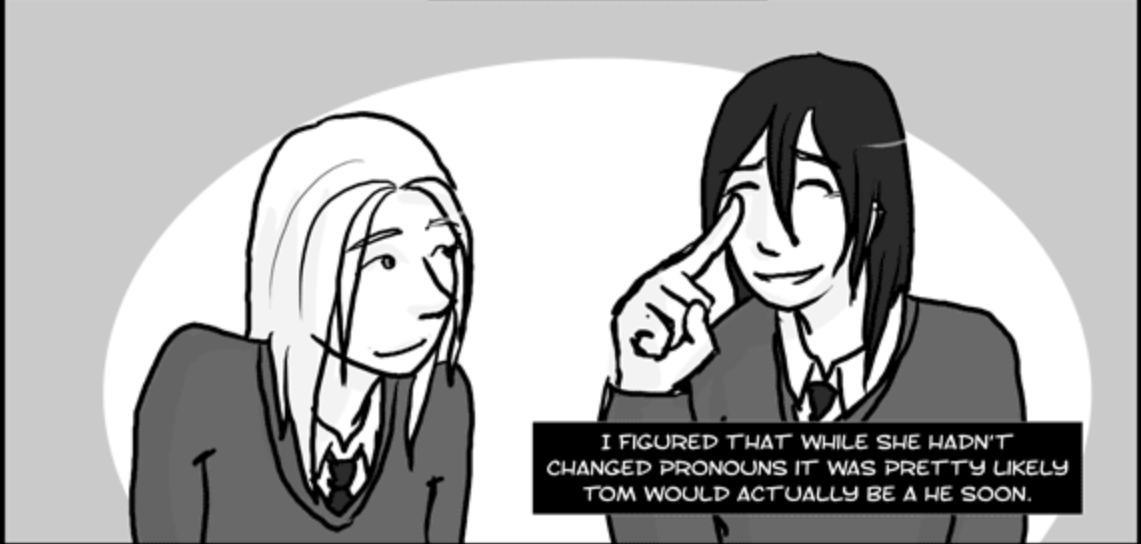
HE JUST TURNED UP ONE DAY AND WEDGED HIMSELF INTO MY LIFE.

I'D GOTTEN SO USED TO NOT HAVING FRIENDS (WELL EXCEPT THOSE ONLINE) THAT I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN WHAT IT WAS LIKE.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?



I FELT A CONNECTION WITH HIM THAT I'D NEVER HAD WITH ANYONE BEFORE.



I FIGURED THAT WHILE SHE HADN'T CHANGED PRONOUNS IT WAS PRETTY LIKELY TOM WOULD ACTUALLY BE A HE SOON.



TRY  
KNOCKING  
YOU FUCK!

WELL-  
TRY LOCKING  
THE DOOR IF YOU'RE  
GONNA WEAR GIRL'S  
DRESSES!

I GOT PROVED RIGHT PURELY BY  
ACCIDENT WHEN HE WALKED  
IN ON ME GETTING CHANGED

I EXPECTED HIM TO  
REJECT ME, BUT INSTEAD  
HE CAME OUT TOO.

NO-  
I LIKE MEN.

HE PRETTY MUCH TOOK  
TO BEING A GUY LIKE HE  
WAS ALREADY ONE

BUT IN A  
GAY WAY.

WHICH WAS PRETTY ANNOYING AS I HAD  
TO PUT IN HOURS OF EFFORT LOOK LIKE  
A GIRL AND ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS TO  
ROLL OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING.

S'UP??

THAT DIDN'T STOP ME  
FROM FALLING IN LOVE  
WITH HIM THOUGH.



HE STARTED GETTING MORE TATTOOS  
AND WORKING OUT AND BECOMING HOTTER  
AND HOTTER AS EACH MONTH ROLLED PAST

TRY IT  
ON.

AND THE MORE MANLY AND  
CONFIDENT HE GOT THE  
MORE I WANTED HIM

I DIDN'T EVEN REALLY  
CARE THAT MUCH ABOUT  
HIS LOOKS REALLY-

HE WAS THE FIRST  
PERSON WHO KNEW ME AS A  
GIRL AND LIKED ME AS A GIRL,

AND FUCK I LOVED HIM FOR IT



I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE HE SAID  
HE LIKED MEN, AND I WASN'T REALLY ONE,

BUT PART OF ME HOPED THAT AS HE WAS  
MORE MALE HE WOULD BE SLIGHTLY ATTRACTED  
TO GIRLS BECAUSE IT WASN'T HIM BEING A  
LESBIAN BUT A STRAIGHT MAN INSTEAD.



SUPER  
BRA!

OR THAT HE MAY LIKE ME  
LIKE I LIKED HIM, AND NOT CARE.





BUT THEN ONE DAY I FOUND SOME SURGERY INFORMATION FOR HIM


AND HE REALISED THAT HE PROBABLY WOULD NEVER BE A "FULL" MAN WITH A WORKING PENIS.



YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A MAN, WHAT'S ACTUALLY THERE WON'T CHANGE THAT.


HE JUST LOOKED SO SAD AND HURT I WANTED TO COMFORT HIM TO LET HIM KNOW THAT I CARED NO MATTER WHAT HE HAD.





HIS LIPS WERE CHAPPED  
AND HE HELD MY FACE  
SOFTLY IN HIS HAND.

HOPE LEAPT UP IN ME AS  
HE RESPONDED, BUT THEN  
HE PULLED BACK.




SORRY- WAS  
THAT OKAY? I  
MEAN I'VE NEVER-

NO- I- IT WAS VERY  
NICE, BUT I STILL, AH,  
PREFER MEN.

BEING REJECTED HURT SO MUCH,  
AND I SPENT THAT NIGHT HATING  
MYSELF FOR HOW I WAS.

I CONVINCED MYSELF BY THE END OF IT  
THAT BEING WITH TOM WOULD MAKE ME  
HAPPIER THAN BEING A GIRL WOULD



SO THE NEXT DAY WHEN HE  
CAME BACK I WAS GOING TO ASK  
HIM OUT AS A GUY.



I FELT AMAZING.



THE ARGUMENT WITH MUM WAS PRETTY HORRIBLE, BUT IT NEEDED TO HAPPEN.



I WANT YOU TO TAKE THOSE OUT OF YOUR EARS! IF YOU'RE LUCKY THEY'LL HEAL WITHOUT SCARS.

WHAT?  
MY EARS?

BUT-



YOU CAN BUY CLIP ON EARRINGS! YOU JUST POINTLESSLY INFLICTED HARM ON YOURSELF FOR FASHION!

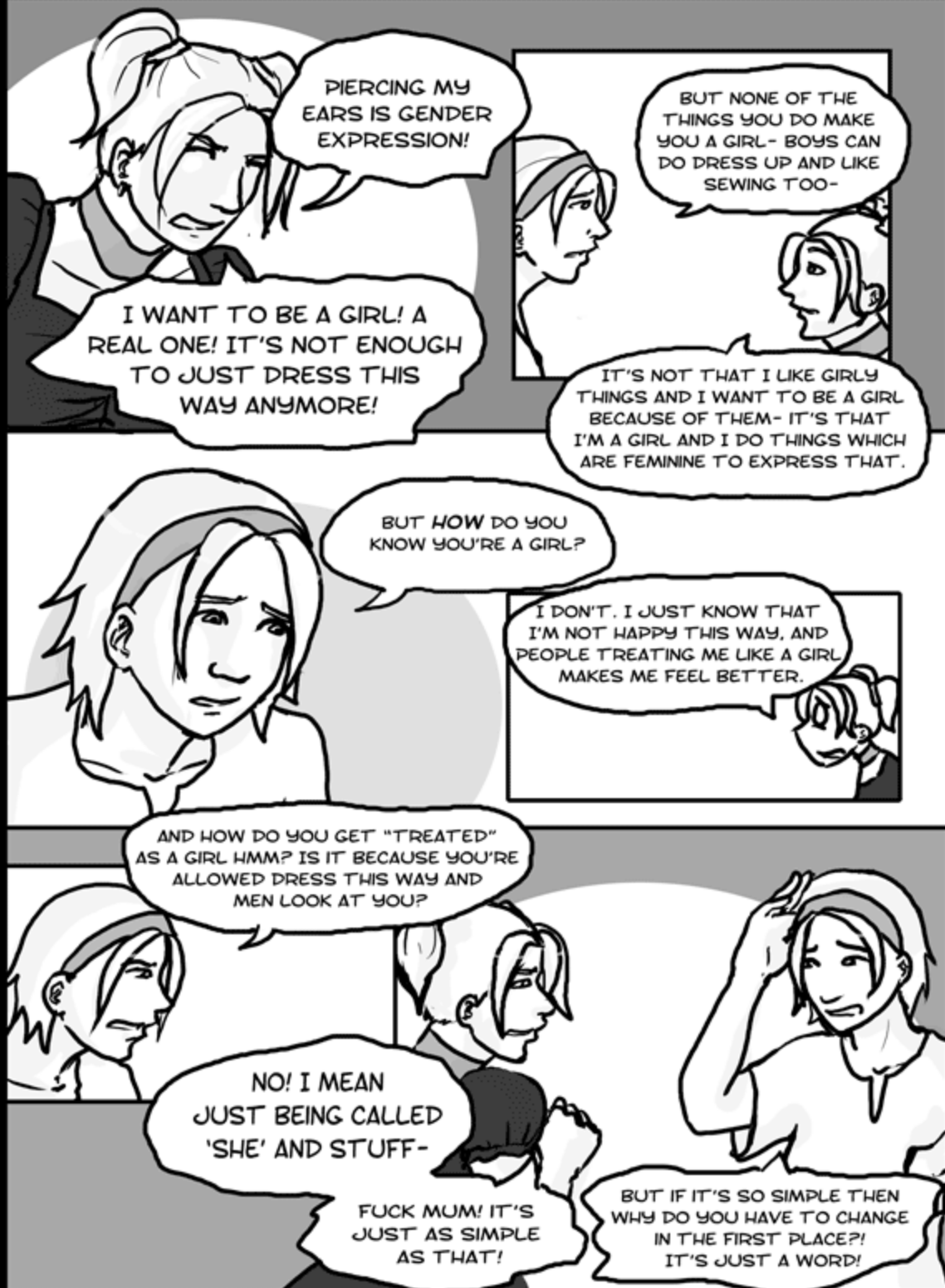
I KNOW YOU LIKE PRETTY THINGS BUT WITH YOUR SKILLS YOU CAN CHANGE ANY EARRINGS FOR CLIP ONS-

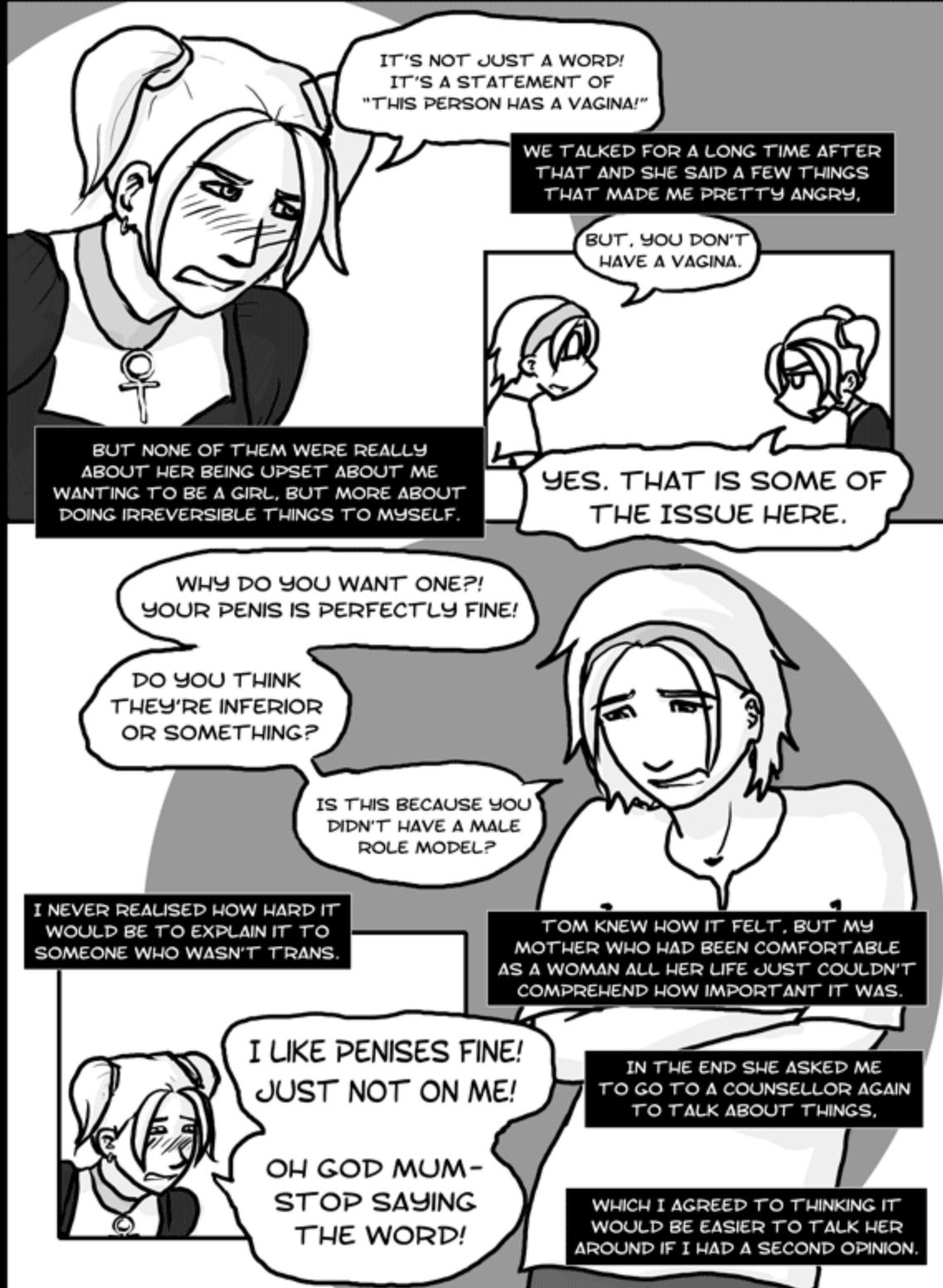



I THOUGHT YOU WERE ANGRY THAT I'M IN A DRESS!

...WHY? YOU USED TO DO IT ALL THE TIME AS A CHILD, I'M NOT GOING TO STIFLE YOUR GENDER EXPRESSION











THE COUNCILLOR WAS NICE AND HAD  
A LOT MORE EXPERIENCE WITH TRANS  
PEOPLE THAN MY LAST ONE,




I'M A PRETTY STANDARD  
CASE FOR GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER.  
WHEN I GET OLD ENOUGH I'M GOING TO  
START MEDICALLY TRANSITIONING  
SO I FEEL RIGHT.

SO IT BECAME LESS ABOUT HAVING  
SOMETHING TO CONVINCE MY MUM WITH  
AND MORE ABOUT HELPING MYSELF.



OH HONEY- BUT  
WHAT IF YOU CHANGE  
YOUR MIND?


NOT THAT I DIDN'T USE IT TO  
HELP MY MUM ALONG THE WAY.




IT'S A REALLY SLOW  
PROCESS, MUM- HORMONES  
TAKE YEARS AND THE SURGERY  
WAIT IS REALLY LONG.

I CAN SEE HOW I FEEL EVERY STEP  
OF THE WAY. I'M GOING TO START BY WEARING GIRLS  
CLOTHING AROUND THE HOUSE AND THINGS.

IT WOULD MEAN A LOT TO  
ME IF YOU CALLED ME SHE.



ARE YOU GOING TO  
CHANGE YOUR NAME?



NO- I'VE ALWAYS  
BEEN CHARLIE MUM.

THIS IS JUST  
IN A SLIGHTLY  
DIFFERENT WAY.



I KEPT TALKING WITH A COUNCILLOR AND THEY RECOMMENDED THAT I START LIVING FULL TIME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS THAT WOULD CONVINCE THE NHS HOW SERIOUS I WAS.

I'D BEEN REFERRED TO THE UNDER 18'S CLINIC, BUT THE APPOINTMENT WASN'T FOR MONTHS.

I COULD HAVE JUST STARTED LIVING FULL TIME AFTER I LEFT SCHOOL...

BUT PART OF ME WANTED TO TRY IT OUT TO SEE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN.

I DECIDED TO COME OUT AT SCHOOL A FEW WEEKS BEFORE I WAS GOING TO LEAVE.



POSSIBLY BECAUSE BEING AROUND TOM MADE ME FEEL LIKE I COULD HANDLE ANYTHING.

LOOKING IN THE MIRROR IN THE MORNING I FELT THAT I COULD DO IT. I LOOKED THE PART, AND I'D BEEN PRACTICING FOR SO LONG.



BUT THE SECOND I GOT TO SCHOOL  
AND SAW PEOPLE'S REACTIONS,  
FUCK, I WISH I HAD WAITED.



WHAT THE FUCK ARE  
YOU WEARING, YOU  
LITTLE QUEER?



IT'S A SKIRT

THE LESSONS WERE OKAY,  
BUT DURING BREAKS I  
WAS VULNERABLE.



DO I  
LOOK FUCKING  
BLIND?



WHY ARE YOU  
WEARING A SKIRT?



... BECAUSE  
I'M A GIRL





SLEEPING THAT NIGHT  
WAS REALLY HARD.


I HAD NO IDEA WHAT TO DO THE NEXT  
DAY, AND I JUST KEPT THINKING ABOUT  
HOW STUPID I WAS COMING OUT.

I COULDN'T BACK DOWN THOUGH-  
WEARING TROUSERS AGAIN WOULD BE  
SHOWING THEM THAT THEY HAD WON.



SMACK!

BUT THEN THEY ATTACKED US ON  
THE WAY TO SCHOOL, AND KNOCKED  
TOM OUT WITH A ROCK



YOU CAN'T DO THIS,  
NATALIE- YOU'LL GO  
TO PRISON-

LIKE ANYONE WOULD  
BELIEVE YOU.

BESIDES,  
I WAS JUST SO SURPRISED  
WHEN I SAW YOU IN A DRESS THIS  
MORNING WHILE WALKING WITH MY  
FRIENDS, I JUST LASHED OUT!

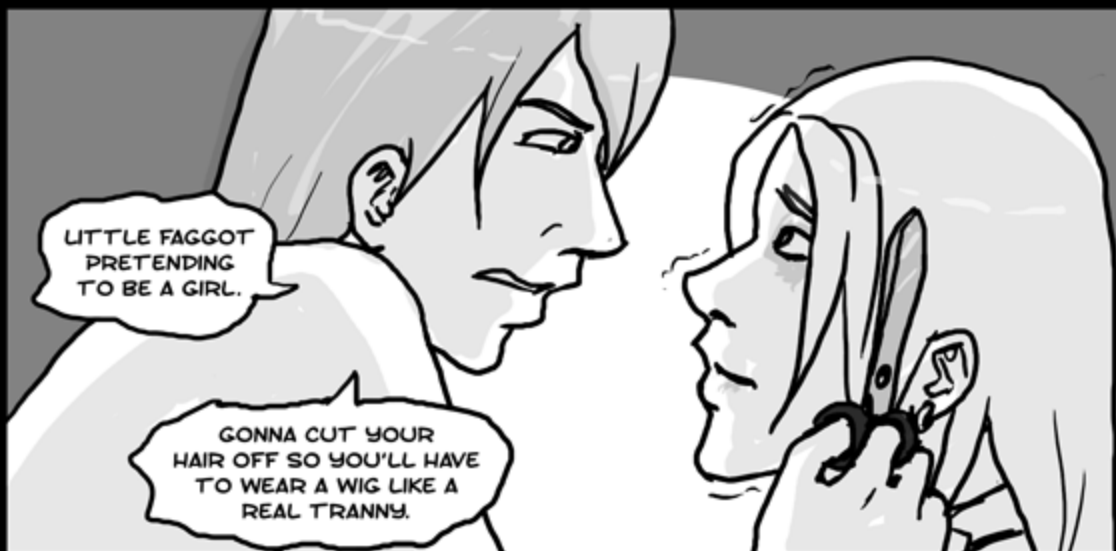
I DIDN'T MEAN  
TO DO IT!



FUCKING BITCH  
NEEDS TO SHUT  
UP.

GIVE ME  
THE SCISSORS.

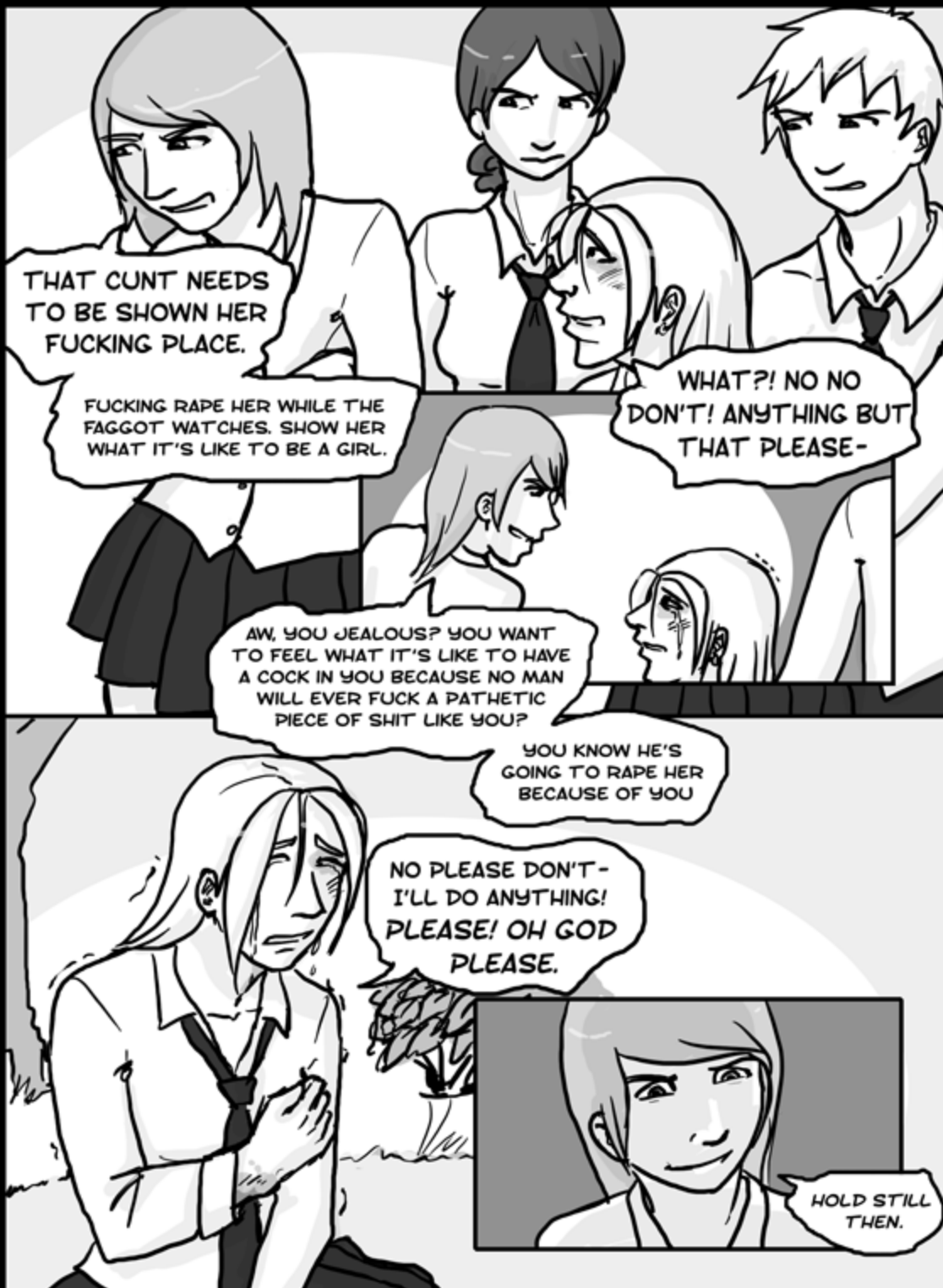
WHAT? NO!  
NO!



BRING HER  
HERE!

HEY, HER TIT'S ARE  
BOUND DOWN. I BET SHE  
WANTS TO BE A MAN  
LIKE THIS FREAK!









IT WAS HARD TO SEE THROUGH THE TEARS AND THE BLOOD FROM MY EAR MADE MY HAND SLIPPERY.

BUT I CHECKED TOM AND MANAGED TO GET MY PHONE.



H-HELLO? I  
NEED AN AMBULANCE  
PLEASE.



MY MUM WAS HYSTERIC  
WHEN THEY CALLED HER IN.

HOW COULD NO ONE  
HAVE SEEN IT?! OR AT  
LEAST CALLED THE  
POLICE!

I FIGURED SHE HAS BAD EXPERIENCES  
WITH HOSPITALS, BUT I NEEDED TO  
ESCAPE TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THE  
HELL I WAS GOING TO DO.

\*SIGH\*

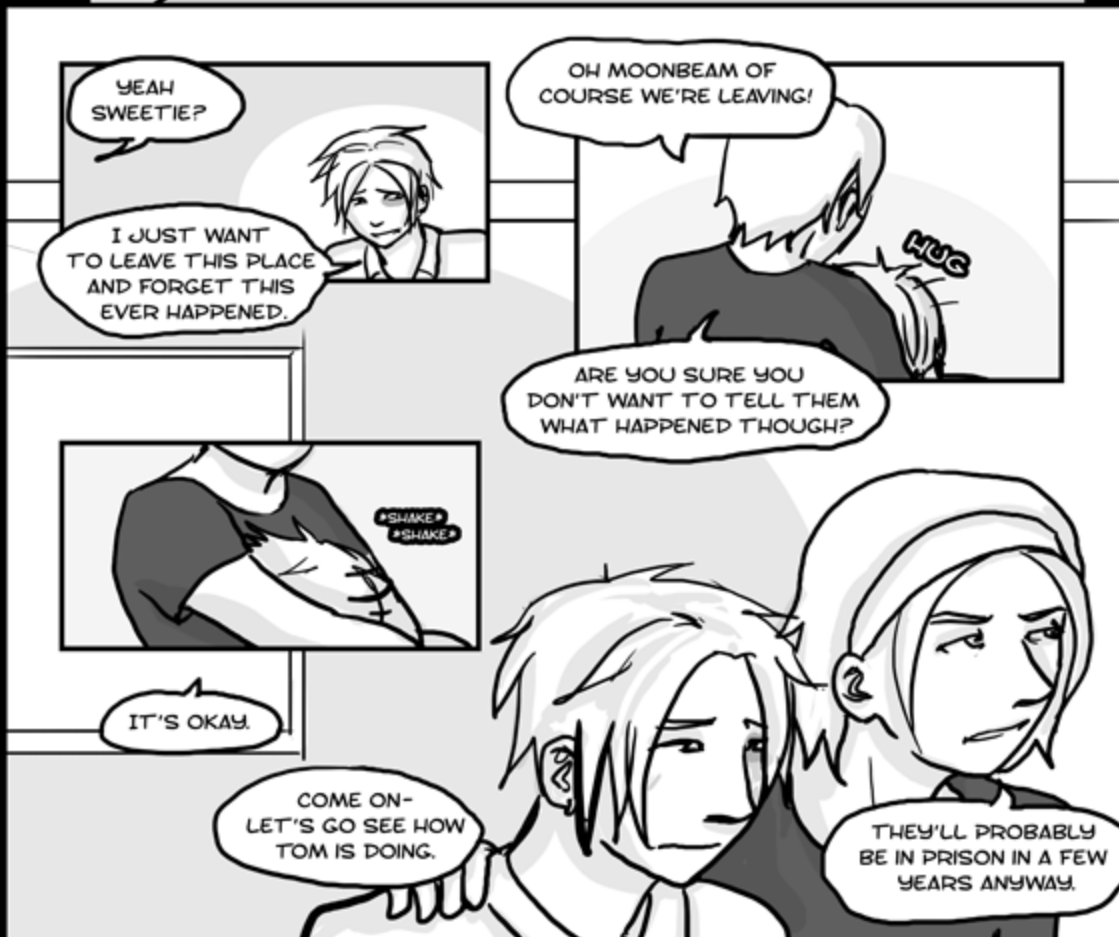
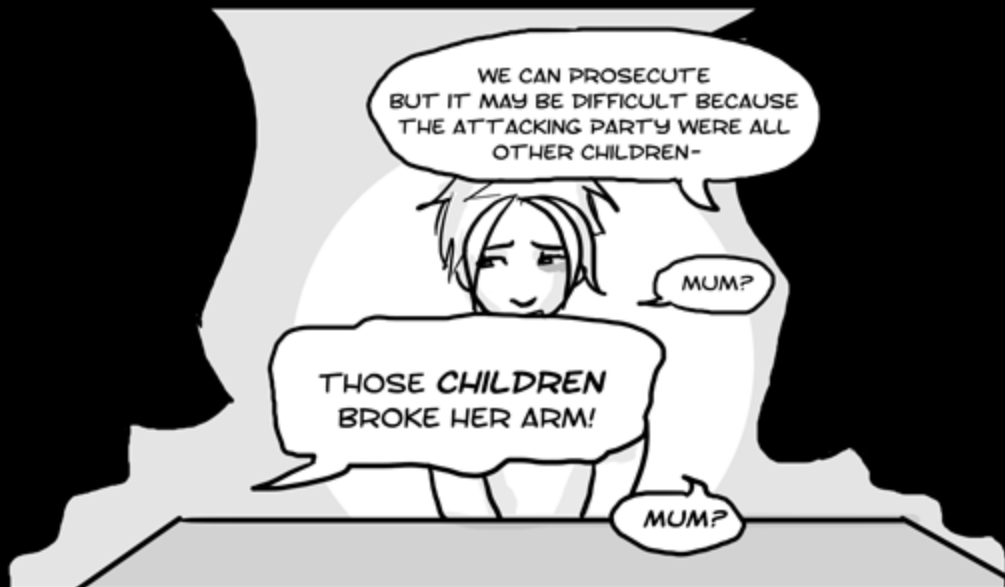
SO, TOM'S A BOY LIKE  
YOU'RE A GIRL THEN.

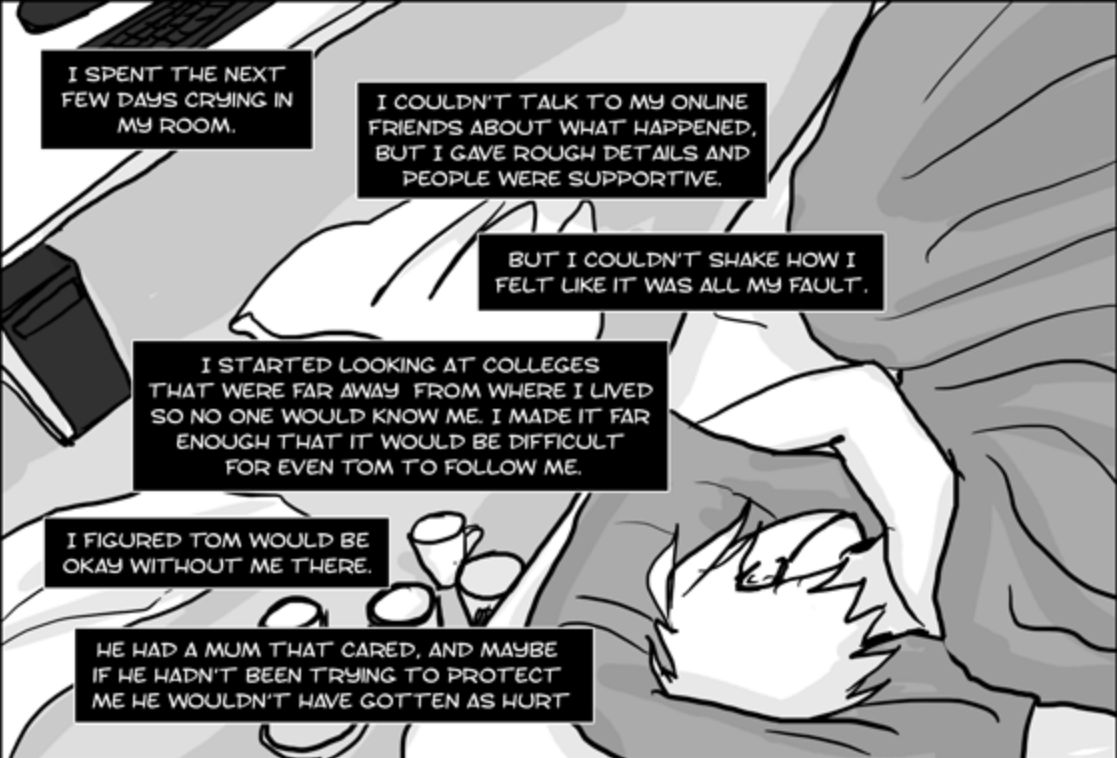
YEAH.

IS IT WORTH IT? I MEAN  
WHAT THOSE KIDS DID TO  
YOU TWO- COULDN'T YOU  
JUST'VE, YOU KNOW, STAYED  
LIKE YOU WERE?

NO.... THIS HURTS,  
BUT TRYING TO BE A  
BOY HURT A LOT MORE.







I SPENT THE NEXT  
FEW DAYS CRYING IN  
MY ROOM.

I COULDN'T TALK TO MY ONLINE  
FRIENDS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED,  
BUT I GAVE ROUGH DETAILS AND  
PEOPLE WERE SUPPORTIVE.

BUT I COULDN'T SHAKE HOW I  
FELT LIKE IT WAS ALL MY FAULT.


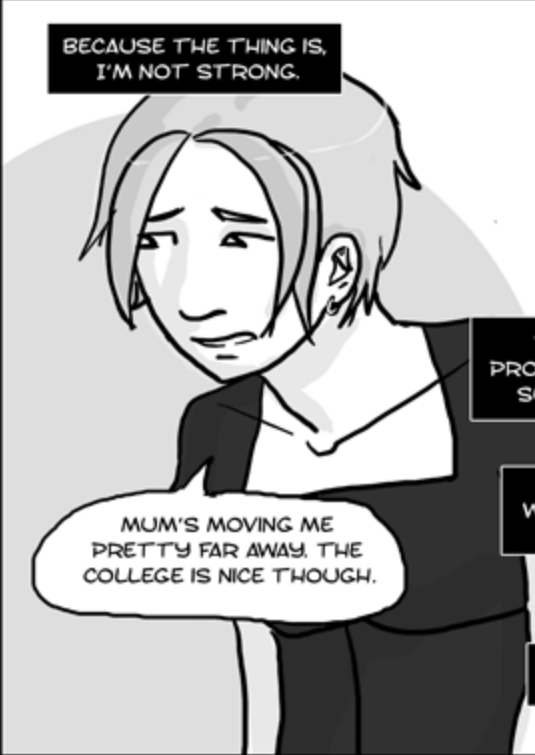
I STARTED LOOKING AT COLLEGES  
THAT WERE FAR AWAY FROM WHERE I LIVED  
SO NO ONE WOULD KNOW ME. I MADE IT FAR  
ENOUGH THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT  
FOR EVEN TOM TO FOLLOW ME.

I FIGURED TOM WOULD BE  
OKAY WITHOUT ME THERE.


HE HAD A MUM THAT CARED, AND MAYBE  
IF HE HADN'T BEEN TRYING TO PROTECT  
ME HE WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN AS HURT

BECAUSE THE THING IS,  
I'M NOT STRONG.

MUM'S MOVING ME  
PRETTY FAR AWAY. THE  
COLLEGE IS NICE THOUGH.



THE ONLY WAY I COULD  
PROTECT TOM WAS BY MAKING  
SURE HE WASN'T NEAR ME.




DON'T WORRY! WE  
CAN STILL VISIT  
EACH OTHER!

HE PASSED SO WELL HE  
WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEMS  
WHEREVER HE WENT.

IT WAS ME THAT  
DRAGGED HIM DOWN.



YEAH.



STARTING AT A NEW  
COLLEGE FELT GREAT.

NO ONE THERE KNEW  
I WAS TRANS, AND IT  
JUST FELT SO GOOD

I KEPT TO MYSELF  
MOSTLY, FOCUSING  
ON CLASSES.

I MADE SOME ACQUAINTANCES,  
BUT I WASN'T COMFORTABLE  
GETTING CLOSE TO PEOPLE AGAIN.

THEN I FOUND OUT TOM  
WOULD BE FOLLOWING ME

YOU  
WHAT?!

PART OF ME FELT ANNOYED  
THAT HE WAS SPOILING THE PLANS  
THAT I HAD TO PROTECT HIM

I MEAN- GREAT!  
WOW- WHERE ABOUTS  
ARE YOU GOING TO BE  
MOVING TO?

BUT OUR TIME APART  
MADE ME REALISE HOW MUCH I'D  
MISSED HAVING HIM AS MY FRIEND

I THOUGHT IT'D BE  
LIKE OLD TIMES

ME AND HIM WOULD HANG  
OUT AT COLLEGE AND THINGS  
AND THAT KIND OF STUFF

BUT ON HIS FIRST DAY  
HE MET ALEX MURPHY,  
AND FELL IN LOVE.

I **HATED** ALEX  
MURPHY.

I'D LIKED TOM FOR AGES, AND  
HE COMES WALTZING IN, BATS HIS  
PRETTY, IN-THE-CLOSET, DENIAL  
-FILLED EYELASHES-

-AND TOM  
FALLS OVER HIS  
FEET FOR HIM.

IT DISSED ME OFF SO MUCH  
I JUST STOPPED HANGING AROUND  
THEM, NOT THAT TOM NOTICED.

**FAG!**

THE FIRST TIME I SAW  
JAMIE HE WAS TEASING ALEX  
FOR BEING GAY.

GENERIC HOMOPHOBIC  
SLUR WITH IMPLICATION  
YOU ARE GAY!

NOW, I SHOULD BE THE  
LAST PERSON TO BE PLEASED  
TO SEE SOMEONE BULLIED.

BLAH BLAH  
NOT GAY, BLAH  
BLAH BLAH!

BUT JAMIE CALLING  
ALEX ON HIS SHIT  
FILLED ME WITH GLEE.

I STARTED TRYING TO MAKE FRIENDS IN MY OWN CLASSES.

ONE DAY IN ART I GOT PARTNERED WITH AMBER. SHE WAS AMAZING, AND OUR FRIENDSHIP WENT FROM THERE.

I THINK I HAVE A BAD HABIT OF FALLING FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE NICE TO ME OR SOMETHING, BECAUSE I GOT QUITE THE CRUSH ON AMBER.

I FOUND IT WEIRD BECAUSE I'D NEVER LIKED A GIRL BEFORE.

HEY, CAN I WORK WITH YOU?

IT WASN'T THAT I DIDN'T LIKE GIRLS, I JUST USED TO HATE THE IDEA THAT IF I WENT OUT WITH ONE I WOULD HAVE TO BE THE BOYFRIEND.

SO WHICH ONE IS HE?

THE ONE ON THE LEFT. DARK HAIR.

BUT IF I DATED AMBER NOW, -AS ME, AS A GIRL- THEN THAT WOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.

HUH, WHY NOT THE TALL ONE?

EH,  
HE ASKED FIRST.

UNFORTUNATELY SHE HAD A BOYFRIEND.

AND I MAY HAVE WANTED TO DATE SOMEONE PRETTY BADLY, BUT I REALLY CAN'T STAND THE IDEA OF CHEATING.

FROM AMBER I MET NAY WHO SHARED A LOT OF MY LOVE FOR ANIME AND THINGS.



HEY,  
COOL  
SHIRT

THANKS.

WE HAD A LOT IN COMMON, BUT SHE WAS VERY TOM BOYISH AND SO I DIDN'T QUITE GET WHY SHE HAD SUCH AN AMAZING FIGURE WITH T-SHIRTS AND JEANS.

A SLEEP OVER?

WOW- I MEAN  
I'D LOVE TO-



I-I'LL JUST  
HAVE TO ASK  
MY MUM.

SLEEPOVERS WERE A  
NEW THING FOR ME.

I HAD AN AWKWARD TIME FIGURING OUT HOW I COULD GO TO ONE WITHOUT ACCIDENTALLY OUTING MYSELF WITH A MORNING ERECTION OR SOMETHING,



BUT A ZIPPED SLEEPING BAG AND THE MOST FRUMPY NIGHT CLOTHES IN EXISTENCE SOLVED THAT.

YEAH, HE JUST  
KIND OF SLIPPED HIS  
HAND UP MY SHIRT AND  
UNDER MY BRA.

IT WAS PRETTY NICE-  
I DIDN'T REALISE BEING  
TOUCHED FELT AS GOOD  
AS DOING THE TOUCHING.

I GOT TO LEARN GREAT GOSSIP  
ABOUT AMBER'S SEX LIFE.





I FIRST MET JAMIE PROPERLY  
WHEN I FOUND HIM IN THE ART ROOM,  
CLEANING BLOOD OFF HIS FACE.

WSSSSHH

SPLASH  
SPLASH

HEY, ARE  
YOU OK -

HOLY SHIT  
YOU'RE BLEEDING!

LEAVE  
ME ALONE -  
I'M FINE.

WIPE

DO YOU NEED  
ME TO CALL THE  
NURSE?

ONE SEC -  
HERE'S SOME  
TISSUES FOR  
YOUR NOSE

RUSTLE

I SAID I'M FINE!  
GO AWAY!



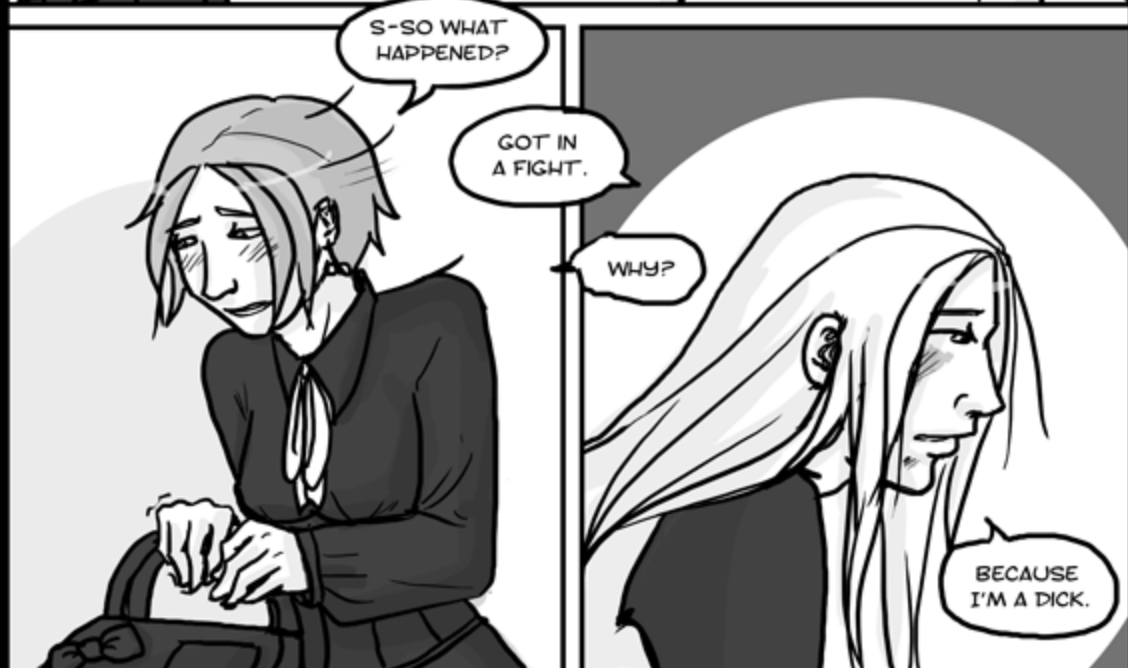
BLINK  
BLINK

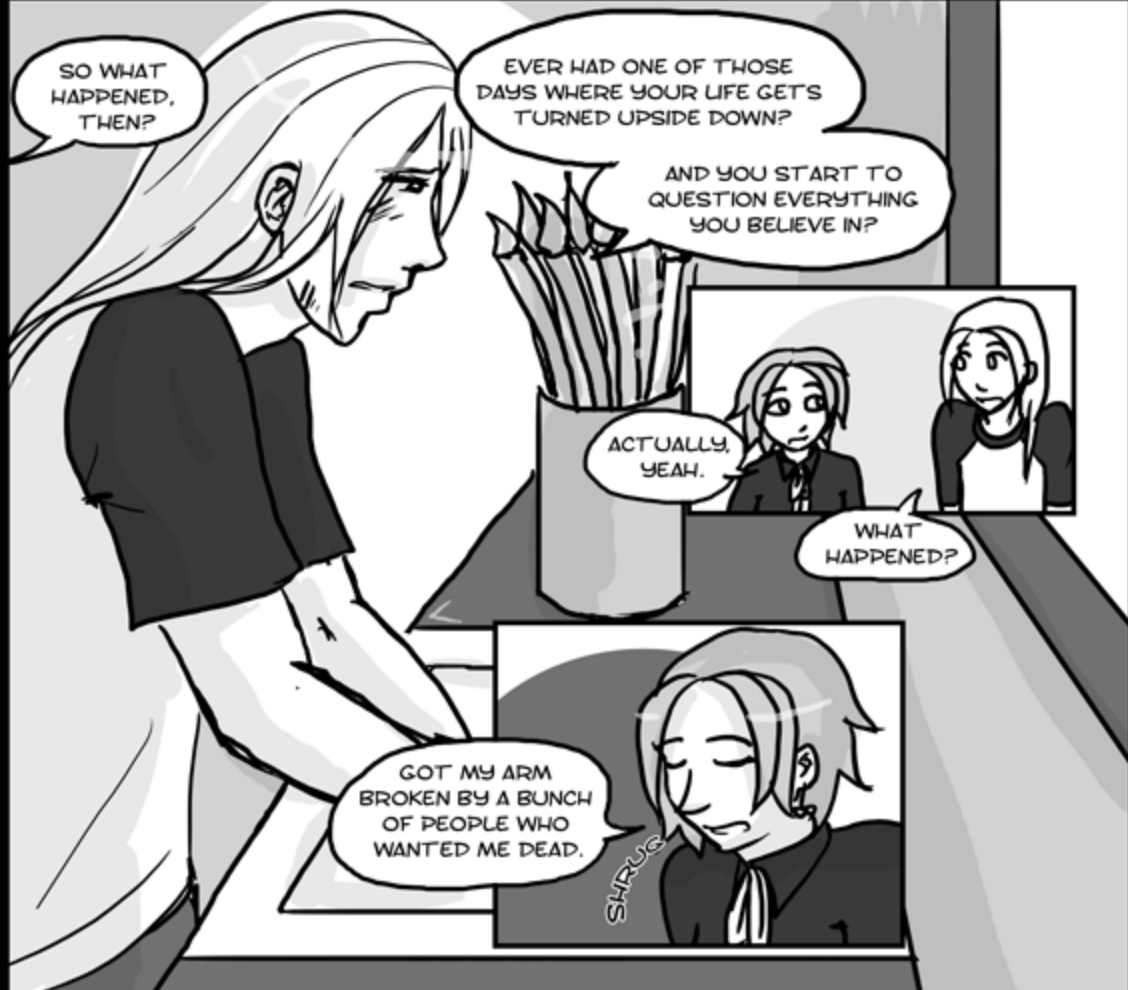
SHUT THE  
FUCK UP AND  
ACCEPT MY  
HELP!

YOU'RE GETTING  
BLOOD EVERYWHERE!



DAB  
DAB



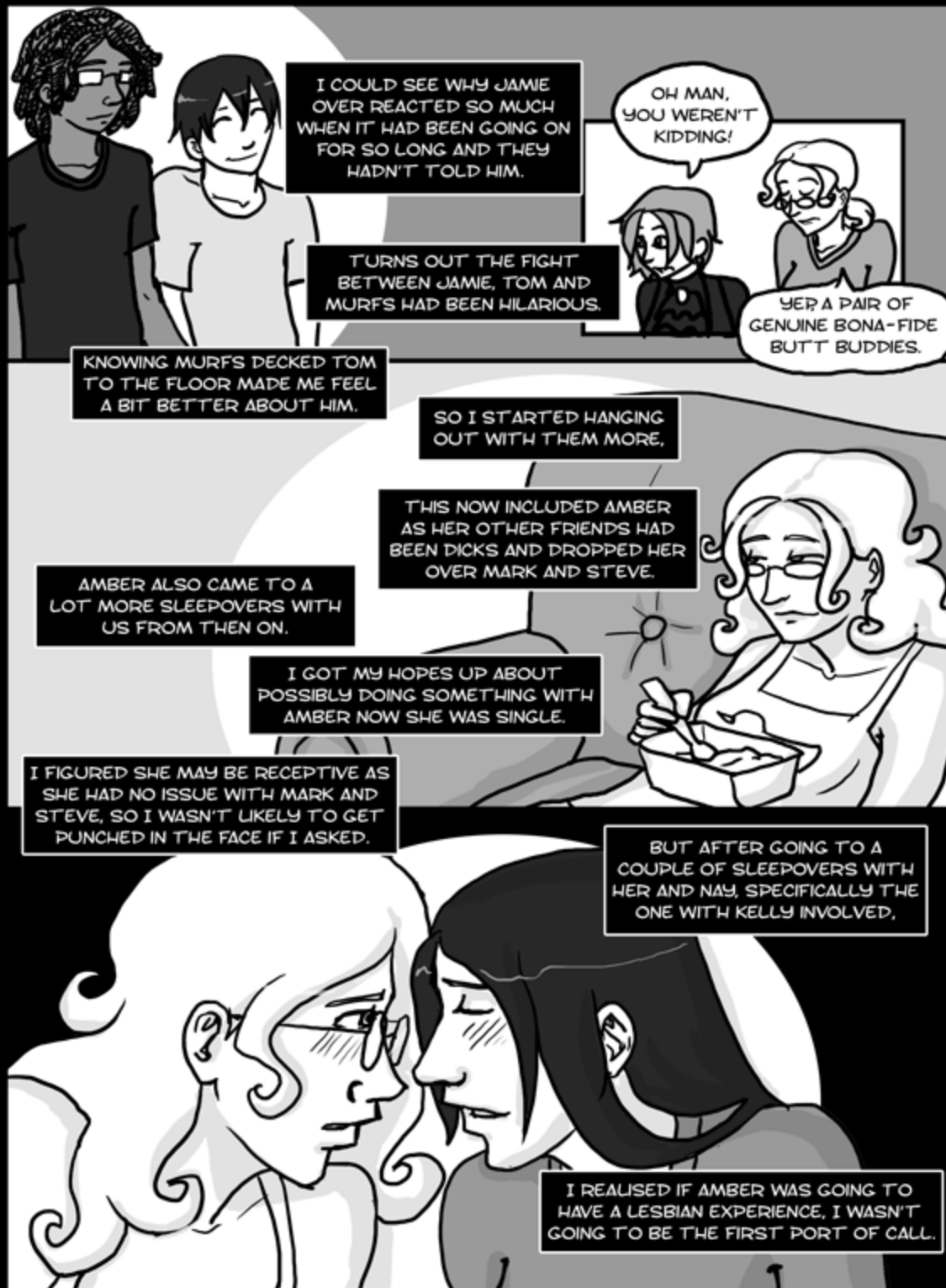




I FOUND OUT LATER ABOUT WHAT HAD ACTUALLY HAPPENED BY ASKING AMBER.



SOME OF THE RUMOURS WERE JUST TOO FUNNY AND I HAD TO SHARE THEM.



I COULD SEE WHY JAMIE OVER REACTED SO MUCH WHEN IT HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR SO LONG AND THEY HADN'T TOLD HIM.

OH MAN, YOU WEREN'T KIDDING!

TURNS OUT THE FIGHT BETWEEN JAMIE, TOM AND MURFS HAD BEEN HILARIOUS.

YEP A PAIR OF GENUINE BONA-FIDE BUTT BUDDIES.

KNOWING MURFS DECKED TOM TO THE FLOOR MADE ME FEEL A BIT BETTER ABOUT HIM.

SO I STARTED HANGING OUT WITH THEM MORE.

THIS NOW INCLUDED AMBER AS HER OTHER FRIENDS HAD BEEN DICKS AND DROPPED HER OVER MARK AND STEVE.

AMBER ALSO CAME TO A LOT MORE SLEEPOVERS WITH US FROM THEN ON.

I GOT MY HOPES UP ABOUT POSSIBLY DOING SOMETHING WITH AMBER NOW SHE WAS SINGLE.

I FIGURED SHE MAY BE RECEPTIVE AS SHE HAD NO ISSUE WITH MARK AND STEVE, SO I WASN'T LIKELY TO GET PUNCHED IN THE FACE IF I ASKED.

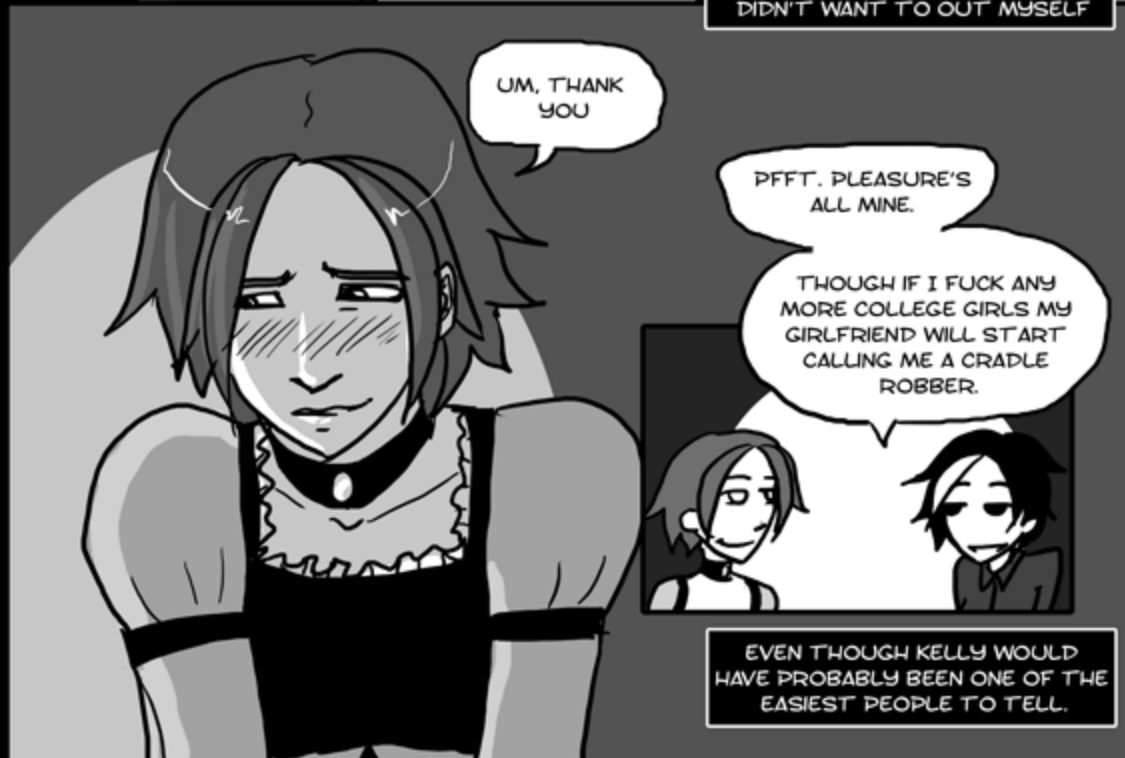
BUT AFTER GOING TO A COUPLE OF SLEEPOVERS WITH HER AND NAY, SPECIFICALLY THE ONE WITH KELLY INVOLVED,

I REALISED IF AMBER WAS GOING TO HAVE A LESBIAN EXPERIENCE, I WASN'T GOING TO BE THE FIRST PORT OF CALL.



THAT NIGHT WAS GREAT  
THOUGH, AS KELLY TAUGHT  
ME TO KISS PROPERLY.

I DIDN'T LET IT GO ANY FURTHER  
THAN THAT, THOUGH, BECAUSE I  
DIDN'T WANT TO OUT MYSELF



UM, THANK  
YOU

PFFT. PLEASURE'S  
ALL MINE.

THOUGH IF I FUCK ANY  
MORE COLLEGE GIRLS MY  
GIRLFRIEND WILL START  
CALLING ME A CRADLE  
ROBBER.

EVEN THOUGH KELLY WOULD  
HAVE PROBABLY BEEN ONE OF THE  
EASIEST PEOPLE TO TELL.



THE NEXT TIME I SAW JAMIE HE WAS DRAWING IN ART WHILE I WAS COMING IN TO DO SOME EXTRA WORK AT LUNCH.

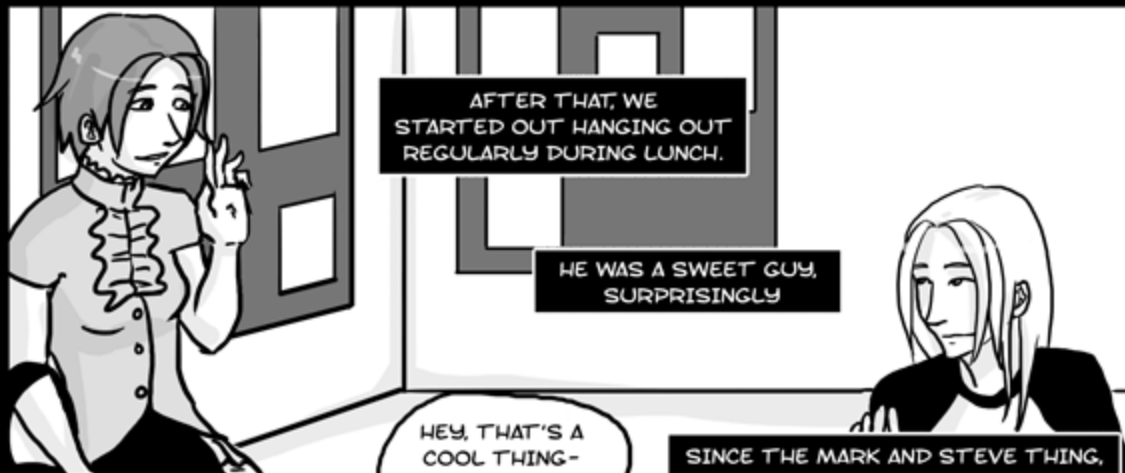


OH, YOU'RE  
THE ONE WHO  
DOES THOSE!

UMM... YEAH.

I THINK THEY'RE  
REALLY COOL!

DO YOU HAVE  
ANY MORE?



HEY, THAT'S A  
COOL THING-  
WHERE DID YOU  
GET IT?

SINCE THE MARK AND STEVE THING,  
HE HAD DEFLATED QUITE A LOT.



OH,  
I MADE IT  
MYSELF.

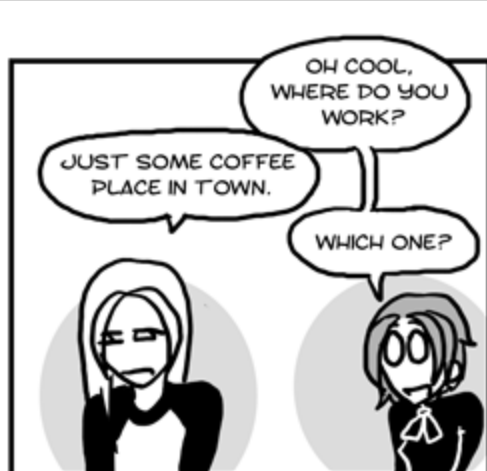
I LIKED JAMIE, BUT I TRIED NOT  
TO LIKE-LIKE HIM, BECAUSE I KNEW  
THAT WOULD JUST BE A **BAD IDEA**


OH, THAT'S  
REALLY COOL.

...YOU'VE GOT  
QUITE A LOT OF  
TALENT THERE.

BUT HE MADE IT VERY  
HARD, BEING ALL PRETTY  
AND NICE TO ME







AND SO I VISITED JAMIE WHILE HE WORKED AND WATCHED HIM BE POLITE TO CUSTOMERS

IT WAS ADORABLE HOW COURTEOUS HE COULD ACTUALLY BE WHEN HE WASN'T ALLOWED TO SWEAR.

IT WAS A PRETTY INTERESTING PLACE THAT WAS MAINLY AIMED AT STUDENTS.

THERE WERE A LOT OF ALTERNATIVE PEOPLE THERE SO I FIT RIGHT IN, WHICH I GUESS WAS WHY JAMIE NEVER MADE A FUSS ABOUT HOW I LOOKED

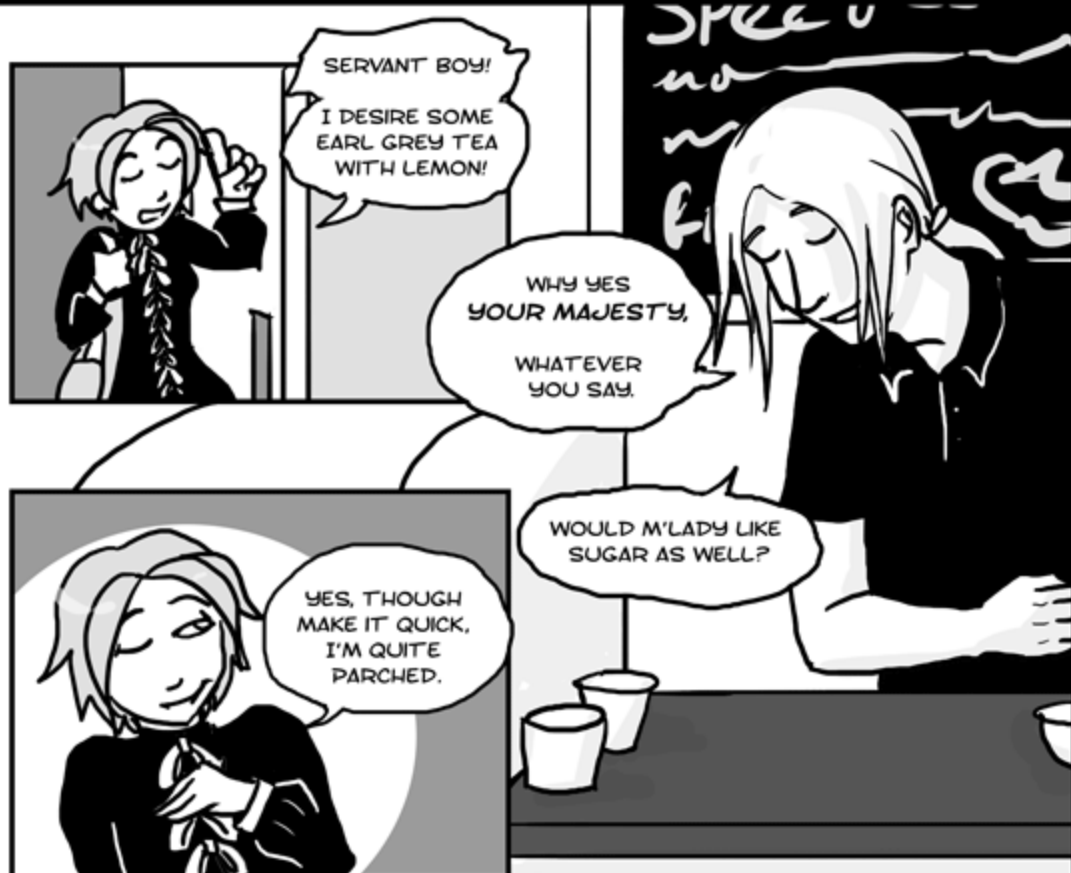


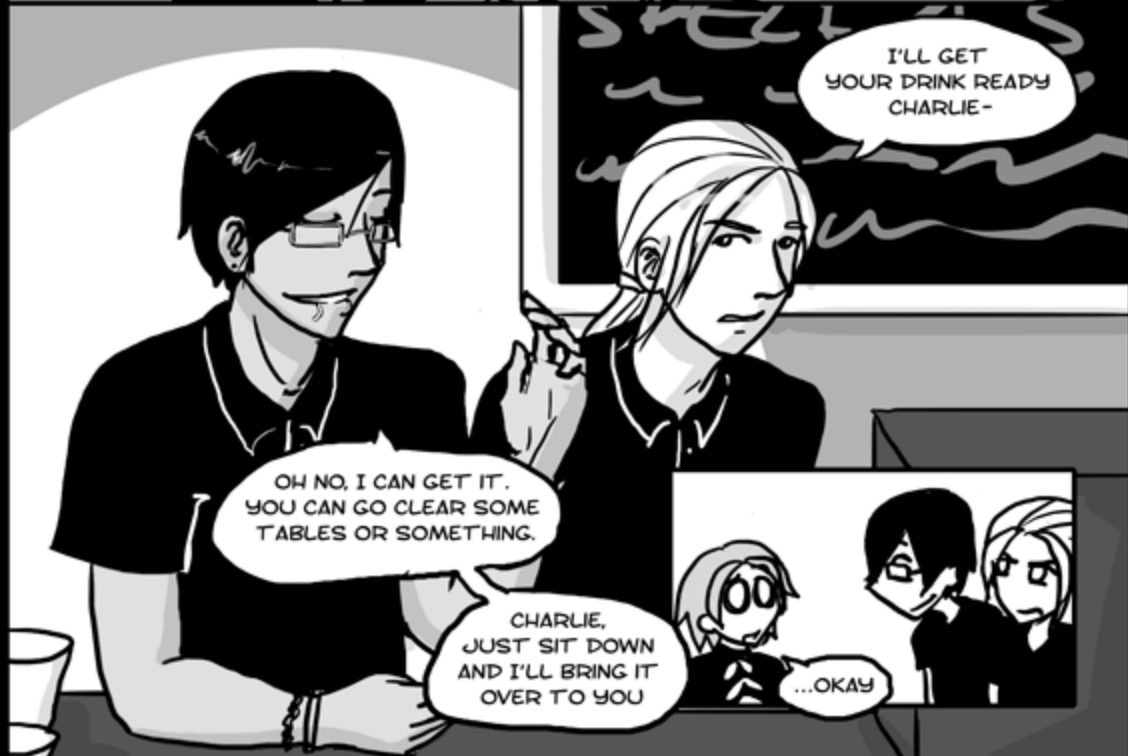
THE DRINKS WEREN'T TOO BAD EITHER, AND I COULD WATCH HIS BUM WHEN HE WALKED CLEARED MY CUPS AWAY



IT BECAME A REGULAR THING FOR US TO SORT OF HANG OUT THIS WAY

AND THE FREE WIFI MEANT I COULD SNEAKILY READ FANFICTION INSTEAD OF STUDYING.





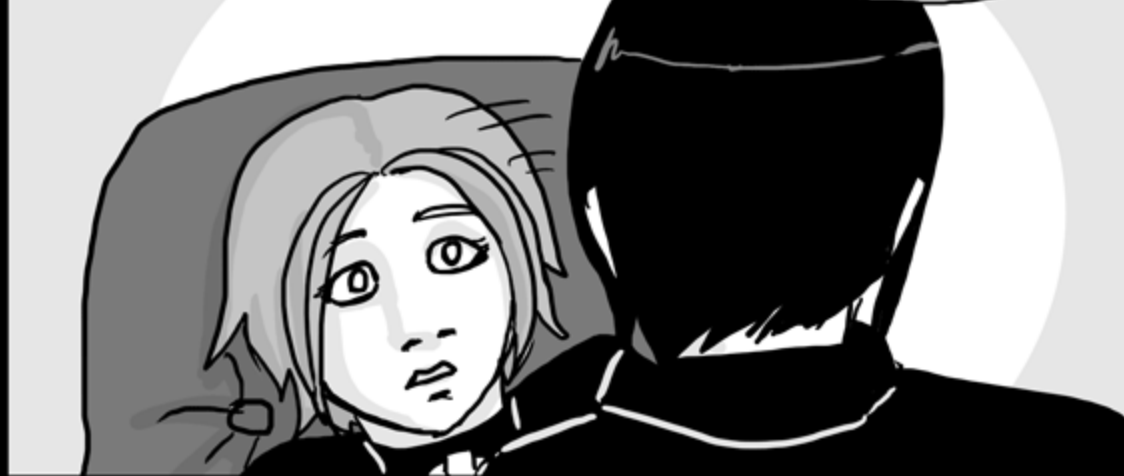


PRETEND TO FLIRT  
WITH ME?



WE'RE JUST  
FRIENDS.









I HAD NEVER THOUGHT  
ABOUT ACTUALLY DATING JAMIE.

BUT NOW I FELT LIKE I  
HAD A CHANCE. IT WAS JUST TOO  
TEMPTING AN OFFER TO PASS UP

IT WAS A PRETTY BIG RISK,  
BUT IF YOU HADN'T NOTICED,  
I'VE TAKEN A FEW OF THOSE.

SO, UM,  
WHAT DOES COLIN  
DO THEN?



HE WORKS  
PART TIME AT WIRED  
AND GOES TO UNI.

OH COOL.



HE WAS NICE.



WALKING HOME THAT NIGHT,  
I DECIDED TO TEST MY LUCK.

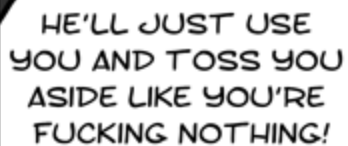
...DID HE ASK  
YOU OUT THEN?





I KNOW HE SEEMS ALL WIT  
AND CHARM BUT HE'S REALLY  
JUST A FUCKING ASSHOLE!





HE'LL JUST USE  
YOU AND TOSS YOU  
ASIDE LIKE YOU'RE  
FUCKING NOTHING!



MAYBE  
I WANT TO  
BE USED!



MMF!



YOU'RE WORTH  
SO MUCH MORE  
THAN THAT -

I HAD NEVER BEEN KISSED  
LIKE THAT BEFORE.

SO MUCH  
MORE.



IT WAS PASSIONATE,  
FIERY, AND SO GOOD

I WANTED MORE, BUT  
JAMIE ENDED THE KISS  
AND PULLED BACK.



UM,

SHIT, I'M  
SORRY. I'LL

UM,

GO NOW.

*FLEE*



## Art and Design



I WAS PRETTY PISSED THAT HE WOULD RUN AWAY JUST AS WE WERE GETTING SOMEWHERE GOOD.

BUT I WAS TOO OUT OF BREATH TO TELL HIM TO STOP

I KEPT TELLING MYSELF IT WOULD BE A BAD IDEA TO PERSUE THINGS FURTHER, BUT THINGS THAT GOOD SHOULDN'T BE IGNORED.

SO THE NEXT DAY I DECIDED TO FIND HIM AND GIVE HIM A PIECE OF MY MIND.



GOING TO RUN AWAY AGAIN THIS TIME?



... I'M SORRY. I SHOULD HAVE MADE SURE YOU GOT HOME OKAY.

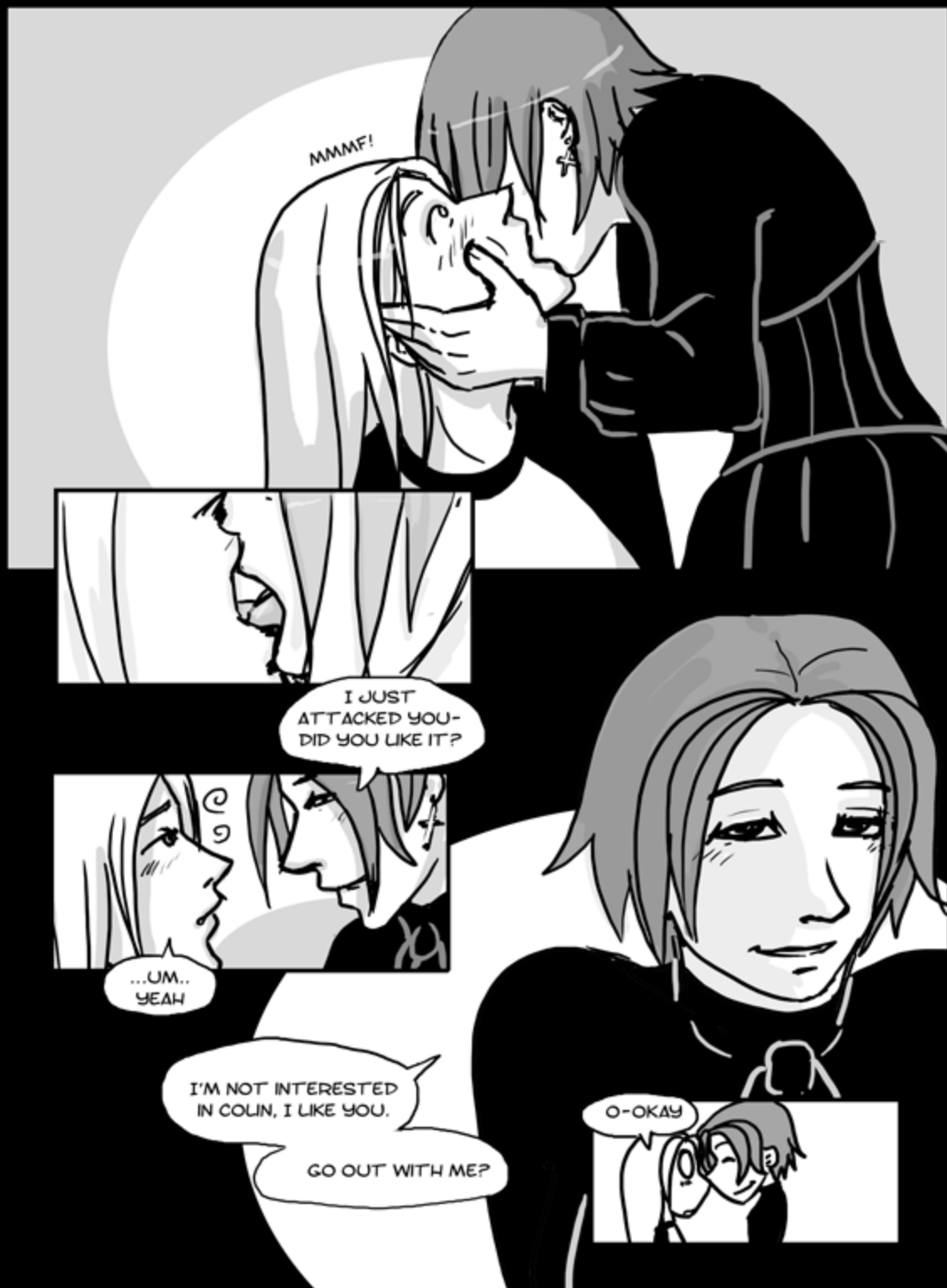



WHY DID YOU RUN?

I UM, WELL... YOU CAN DATE COLIN IF YOU WANT.

IT'S NOT MY PLACE TO SAY YOU CAN'T.


...AND I SHOULDN'T HAVE ATTACKED YOU LIKE I DID.





CAN I KISS  
YOU AGAIN?

YEAH




IT WAS THE PERFECT  
MOMENT UNTIL MURFS  
STUMBLED UPON IT.

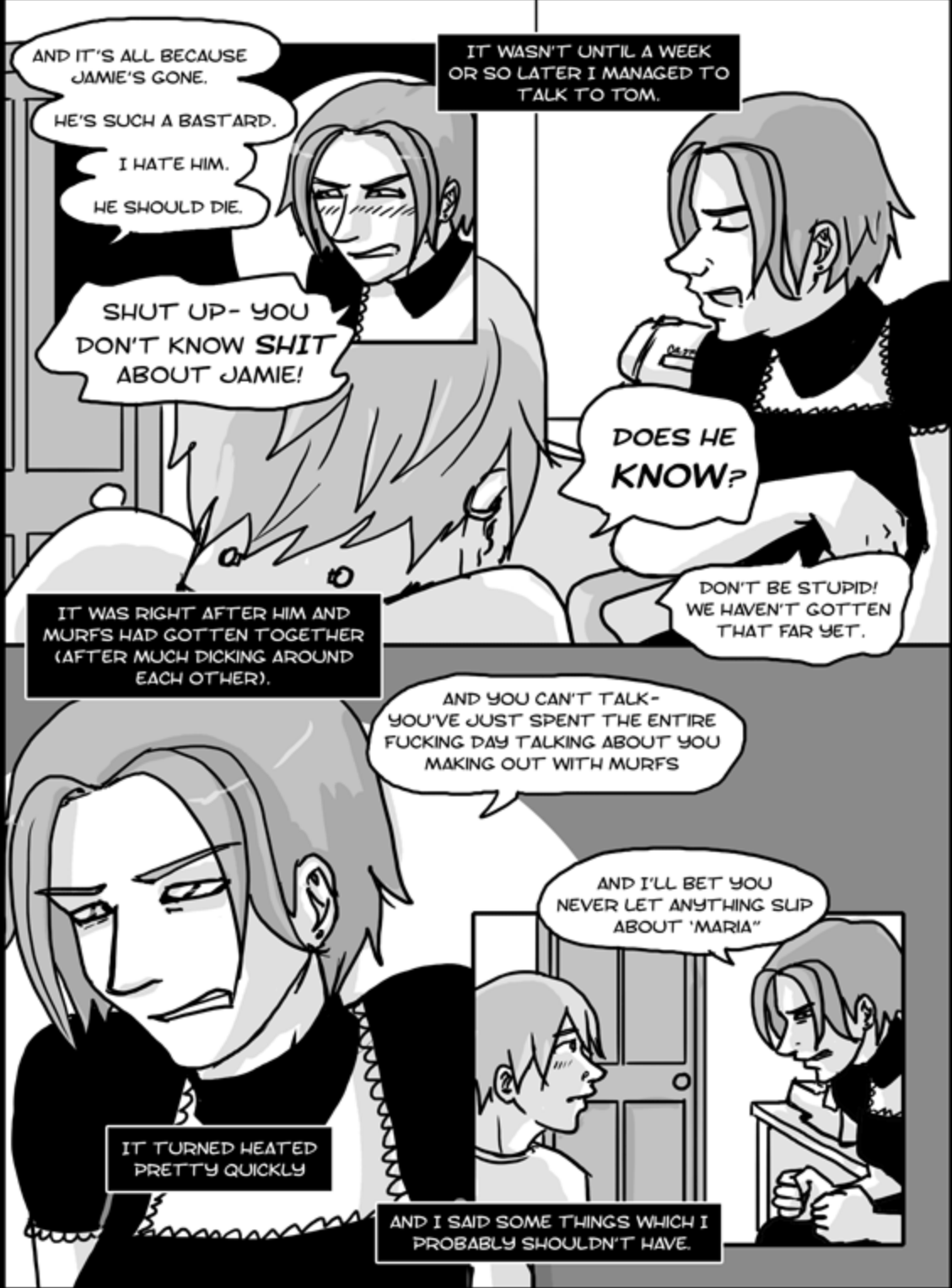


EEP

I HADN'T REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT  
WHAT I WOULD TELL TOM ABOUT  
ALL THIS, SO I JUST ASKED HIM TO  
KEEP QUIET ABOUT IT UNTIL I COULD.



COULD YOU PLEASE  
NOT TELL TOM UNTIL  
I DO? PLEASE?



AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE  
JAMIE'S GONE.

HE'S SUCH A BASTARD.

I HATE HIM.

HE SHOULD DIE.

SHUT UP- YOU  
DON'T KNOW **SHIT**  
ABOUT JAMIE!

IT WASN'T UNTIL A WEEK  
OR SO LATER I MANAGED TO  
TALK TO TOM.

DOES HE  
**KNOW?**

DON'T BE STUPID!  
WE HAVEN'T GOTTEN  
THAT FAR YET.

IT WAS RIGHT AFTER HIM AND  
MURFS HAD GOTTEN TOGETHER  
(AFTER MUCH DICKING AROUND  
EACH OTHER).

AND YOU CAN'T TALK-  
YOU'VE JUST SPENT THE ENTIRE  
FUCKING DAY TALKING ABOUT YOU  
MAKING OUT WITH MURFS

IT TURNED HEATED  
PRETTY QUICKLY

AND I'LL BET YOU  
NEVER LET ANYTHING SLIP  
ABOUT 'MARIA'

AND I SAID SOME THINGS WHICH I  
PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE.

A FEW DAYS LATER  
I FOUND OUT TOM HAD  
BROKEN UP WITH MURFS.

TOM-AND-MURFS-  
BROKE-UP-BECAUSE-  
OF-SOMETHING-I-  
SAID-TO-TOM!

FLUM

I FELT SO BAD, ESPECIALLY LOOKING  
AT HOW THEY WERE MISERABLE  
WITHOUT EACH OTHER.

YOU KNOW A SPELL  
THAT CAN DO THAT?

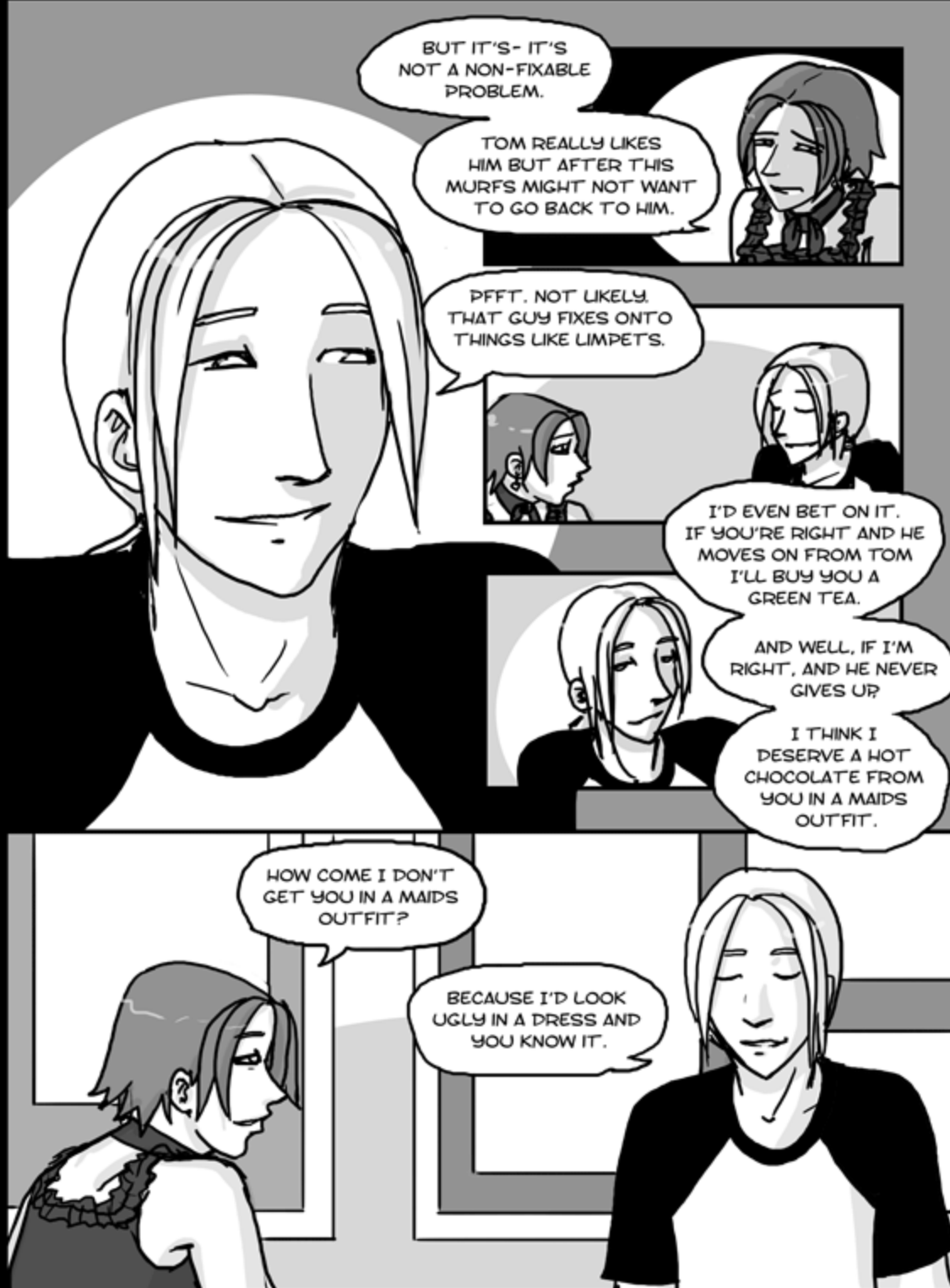
I COULDN'T TALK TO  
TOM BECAUSE I FELT  
SO GUILTY ABOUT IT.

SHUT UP  
THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN  
HAPPY IF I JUST KEPT MY  
BIG MOUTH CLOSED.


PFFFT. SOUNDS TO ME LIKE  
THEY HAD A PROBLEM ALREADY AND  
YOU JUST HAPPENED TO BE THE  
ONE WHO MENTIONED IT.

IT'S BETTER THEY BREAK  
UP NOW INSTEAD OF MONTHS DOWN  
THE LINE WHEN THEY'RE PICKING OUT  
HIS AND HIS TOWELS.









SERIOUSLY,  
ALL THEM  
LOT?



WELL, IT'S  
DEFINITELY GOING TO  
BE A "CAMP"-OUT  
THEN.

I'D BE SURPRISED IF  
IT DOESN'T JUST BECOME  
A GIANT ORGY OF GAY.

MY VIEW ON CAMPING WAS NOT SHARED,  
AND AMBER, NAY, TOM, MURFS, MARK  
AND STEVE WERE ALL GOING.

SO WE DECIDED TO HAVE  
A NIGHT IN TOGETHER INSTEAD




NO.

DO YOU  
WANT TO?

WELL YEAH...

I TOLD JAMIE ABOUT  
THE CAMPOUT.




UM, YOU SEEM A LOT  
MORE OKAY WITH MARK AND  
STEVE NOW. HAVE YOU TALKED  
TO THEM AT ALL?



BUT I CAN'T.





I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE HAVING TROUBLE WITH RELATIONSHIPS.

AMBER WAS REALLY DOWN, WHICH AT THE TIME I THOUGHT WAS ABOUT SEEING MARK AND STEVE AGAIN AT THE CAMPOUT

THE CAMPOUT HAPPENINGS HAD BEEN KEPT STRANGELY QUIET,

THOUGH PEOPLE WERE HAPPY TO TALK ABOUT HOW MURFS HAD SET HIMSELF ON FIRE.

ON FIRE?

YEP

DID THEY HAVE TOO MUCH DICK IN THEIR MOUTHS TO SEE THE BIG HOT THING?

APPARENTLY SO.

THEN ONE DAY NAY APPROACHED ME

YEAH, UM

HI.

AND PRETTY MUCH CONFESSED TO BEING IN LOVE WITH AMBER

NAY WANTED TO BUY AMBER  
SOMETHING FOR HER BIRTHDAY  
TO SHOW HER FEELINGS.

DID YOU FIND  
OUT WHAT AMBER  
WANTS?

...ME.

I WOULD HAVE JUST GONE WITH  
A LOVE CONFESSION OR SOMETHING.

GIVE ME  
THA...

...T.

BUT THEN I'M  
PRETTY FORWARD  
WITH THE PEOPLE I LIKE.

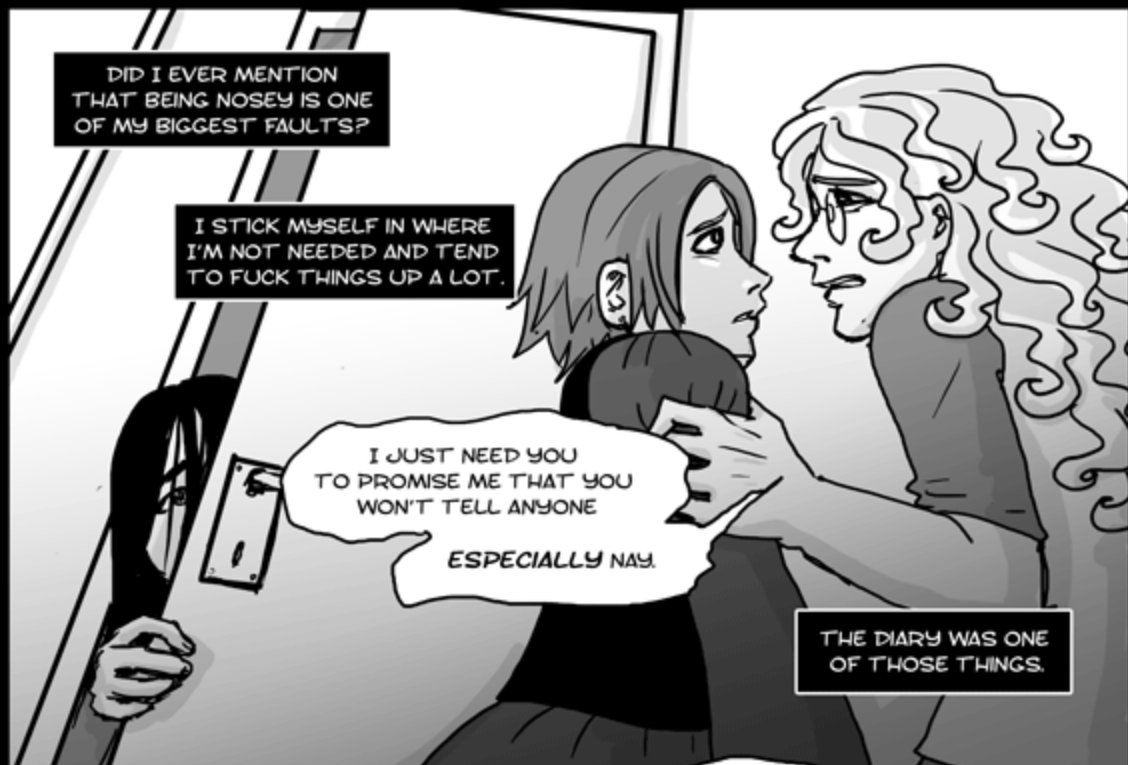
I WANTED TO HELP, BUT  
THE ONLY THING I COULD THINK  
OF WAS AMBER'S SKETCH BOOK.

CHARLIE!

FUCK!  
THAT'S AMBER!

SO WE STOLE IT.

WE HAVE  
TO HIDE  
YOU!



DID I EVER MENTION  
THAT BEING NOSEY IS ONE  
OF MY BIGGEST FAULTS?

I STICK MYSELF IN WHERE  
I'M NOT NEEDED AND TEND  
TO FUCK THINGS UP A LOT.

I JUST NEED YOU  
TO PROMISE ME THAT YOU  
WON'T TELL ANYONE

ESPECIALLY NAY.

THE DIARY WAS ONE  
OF THOSE THINGS.



...

SHE DESERVES  
TO KNOW AMBER.



IF YOU  
TELL ANYONE-

I'LL- I'LL  
TELL JAMIE  
ABOUT YOU

AND HE'LL  
LEAVE YOU.

AND THEN  
EVERYONE  
WILL KNOW  
TOO.

I DIDN'T KNOW AMBER  
KNEW ABOUT ME.

YOU  
WOULDN'T!

YOU CAN'T!

IT WAS TERRIFYING AND THE FACT  
SHE WAS USING IT AS BLACKMAIL  
WAS THE ULTIMATE BETRAYAL.





AMBER HATES ME NOW!  
AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!

I'M SURE SHE  
DOESN'T HATE YOU,  
WHY WOULD YOU  
THINK THAT?

I DID SOMETHING REALLY BAD  
TO HER AND SHE MADE ME PROMISE  
NOT TO DO SOMETHING ELSE, BUT  
I'VE ALREADY DONE IT AND IF I HAVE  
DONE IT SHE'LL TELL EVERYONE THIS  
SECRET OF MINE SHE KNOWS



UM....

I'M SORRY,  
I KNOW IT SOUNDS LIKE  
SUCH A GIRLIE PROBLEM,  
BUT IT'S REALLY  
IMPORTANT!

OKAY, UM....

MAYBE YOU  
SHOULD JUST GO  
TALK TO HER?

WAIT UNTIL SHE'S  
CALMED DOWN AND OWN  
UP IF YOU HAVE TO.

IT'S BETTER SHE HEARS  
FROM YOU INSTEAD OF  
SOMEONE ELSE FINDING OUT  
YOU DID THE THING.

THAT YOU'VE  
ALREADY DONE.



YEAH...



AND SO I TOOK  
JAMIE'S ADVICE.

UM...  
AMBER?

YES?

I, UM-

NAY LIKES  
YOU TOO

WHAT! YOU  
TOLD HER?!  
YOU LITTLE  
CUNT I-

NO-  
NONO!

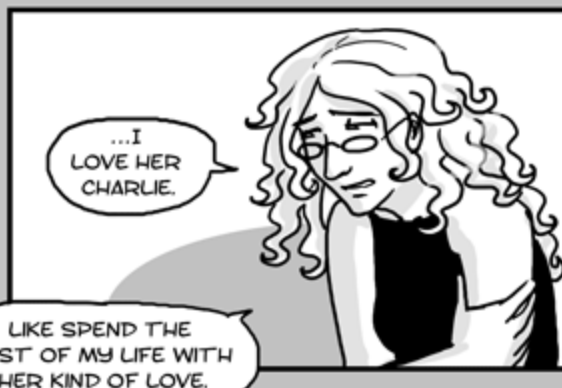
THAT WAS  
BEFORE THE  
SKETCH BOOK!

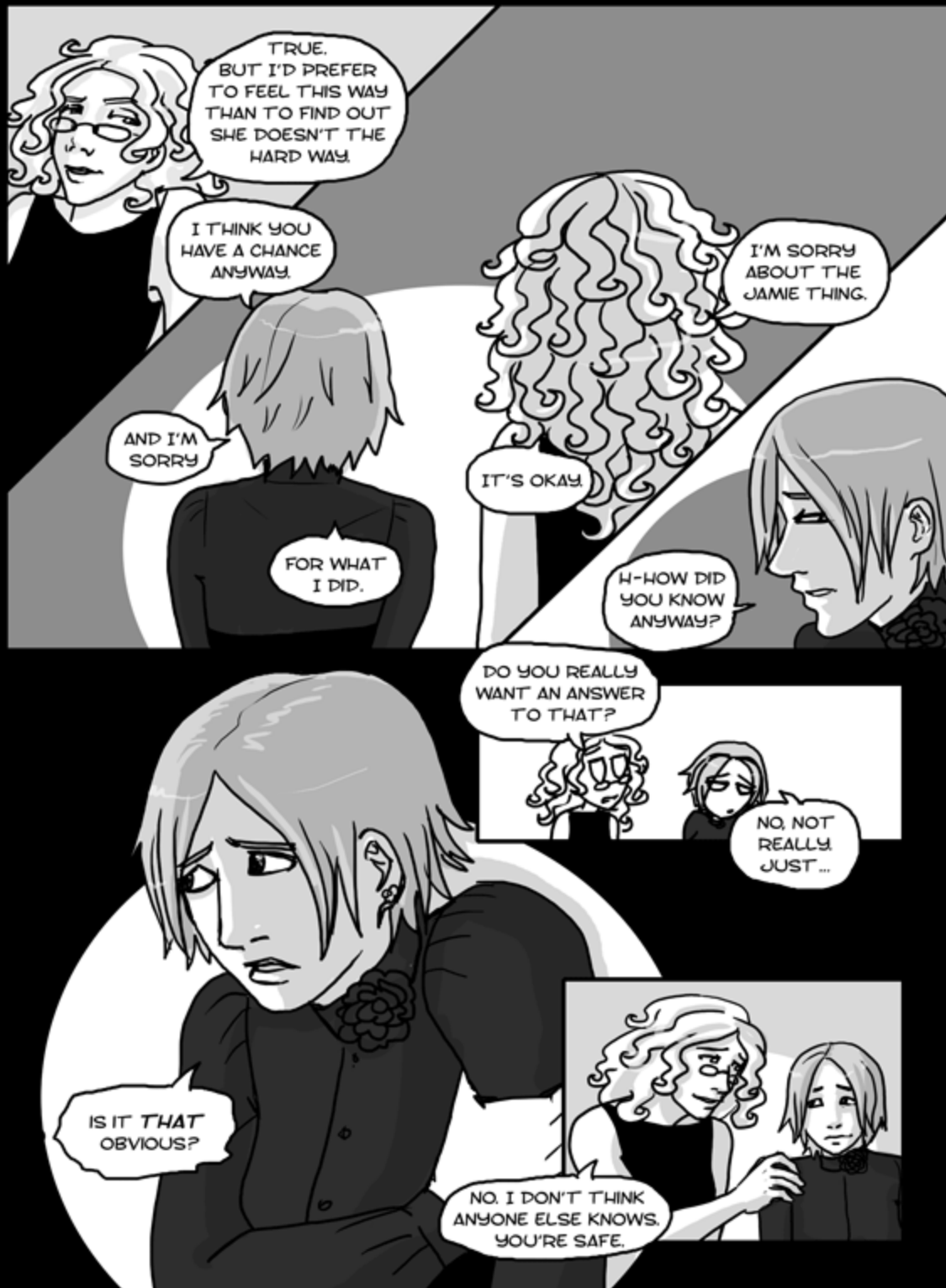
SHE LIKED  
YOU BEFORE!

I STOLE IT SO  
SHE COULD FIND OUT  
IF YOU LIKED HER TOO-

AND YOU DO!  
SO- SO GO ASK HER  
OUT OR SOMETHING!

...PLEASE DON'T  
TELL JAMIE  
ABOUT ME.





THE BIRTHDAY PARTY WAS GREAT.

I GOT CAKE FROM TOM AND MURF'S WHO SEEMED TO BE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN

SORT OF.

THE ONLY THING HARMED IN IT'S MAKING WAS MURF'S

THIS TIME WITH A VERY BLUSHING TOM.

AMBER- I'M SLEEPING IN YOUR ROOM RIGHT?

STRETCH

UMM YEAH... I'LL BE UP LATER THOUGH- I THINK I'LL WATCH THE NEXT FILM.

UM, YOU WON'T LIKE IT. IT'S ABOUT ... BASKETBALL.

FINE- BUT I'M GOING TO GO UPSTAIRS, AND I'M GOING TO WATCH MY BRAND NEW SAILOR MOON S DVD THAT MY PARENTS GOT IMPORTED FROM JAPAN.

THE SLEEPING BAGS ARE IN THE CLOSET.

ENJOY THAT BASKET BALL

I ALSO MANAGED TO SET AMBER AND NAY UP A BIT

BECAUSE DESPITE WHAT AMBER THOUGHT, I HAD A LOT OF FAITH IN THOSE TWO.

AND I WAS TOTALLY RIGHT TOO.

MAKE THIS GOOD- I'M MISSING SAILOR MOON FOR YOU

WHILE THEY WERE OFF "WATCHING SAILOR MOON" I STAYED DOWNSTAIRS AND WATCHED MARK AND STEVE MAKE OUT FOR A BIT UNTIL I COULD TALK TO TOM.



HEY, SO, UM, THINGS LOOK GREAT WITH YOU AND MURFS.

YEAH, YEAH THEY ARE.

... DID YOU TELL HIM?

I DID.

HE'S COOL WITH IT.

WE'VE DONE SOME NAKED THINGS AND HE'S STILL COOL WITH IT -

I-IT'S AMAZING.

HE STILL SEES ME YOU KNOW?

THAT'S GREAT ...  
I'M REALLY HAPPY FOR YOU GUYS.

HEY, UM I WAS TALKING TO ALEX ABOUT YOU AND JAMIE-

YOU TOLD HIM?!

I KNOW, I'M SORRY, BUT IT ALL CAME OUT-

BUT HE'S COOL WITH THAT TOO AND HE WANTED TO HELP!

I DON'T NEED ANY HELP

WE'RE FINE.

HE'S AMAZING

I KNOW, I KNOW!

I'M NOT TELLING YOU TO BREAK UP WITH HIM-

YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND.

BUT I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU DECIDE TO TELL HIM,

I'LL BE THERE TO KICK HIS ASS IF HE TAKES IT BADLY.

I....

...THANK YOU.



A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER I MANAGED TO  
WORK UP THE GUTS TO TALK TO JAMIE.

COME ON  
COME ON  
COME ON

YEAH, UM-  
JAMIE! H-HI! CAN  
YOU COME OVER MINE  
THIS WEEK AT ALL?

SURE, I'M  
FREE WEDNESDAY.

WHAT DO YOU  
WANT TO DO?

UM

I SORTA

KIND OF

REALLY

NEED TO TALK  
TO YOU ABOUT  
SOMETHING.

I NEEDED TO TELL  
JAMIE FACE TO FACE.

WHAT'S WRONG?  
ARE YOU OKAY? DO  
YOU WANT TO TALK  
NOW?

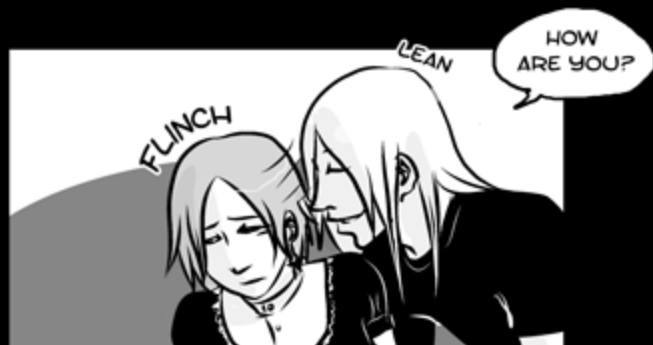
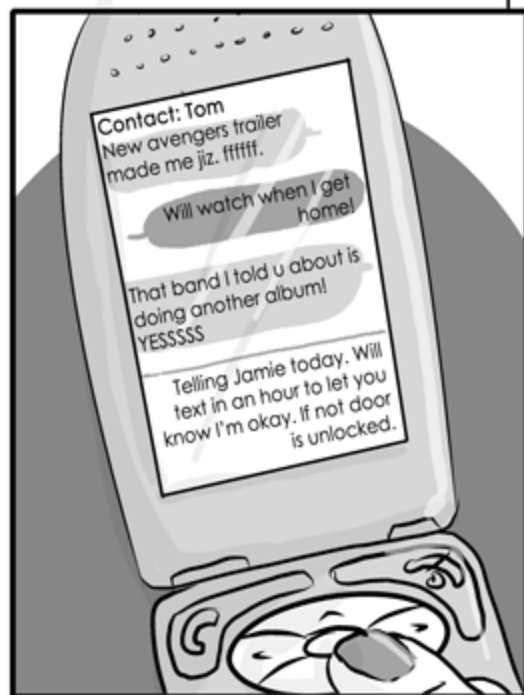
I...NOT OVER THE  
PHONE, IT'S KIND  
OF IMPORTANT.

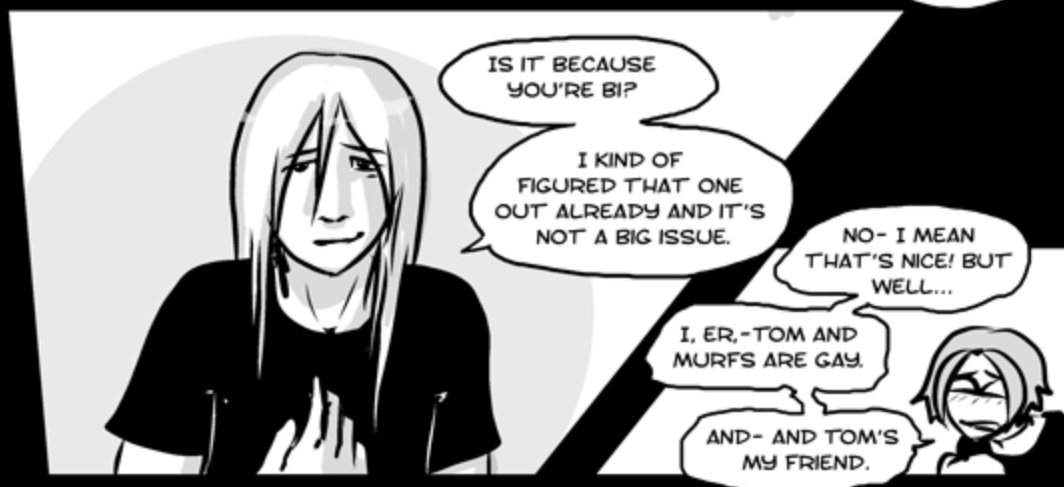
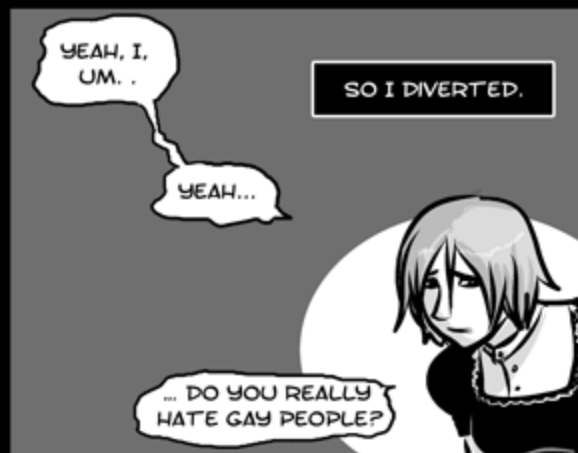
GIVE ME LIKE  
20 MINUTES AND  
I CAN BE AT YOURS

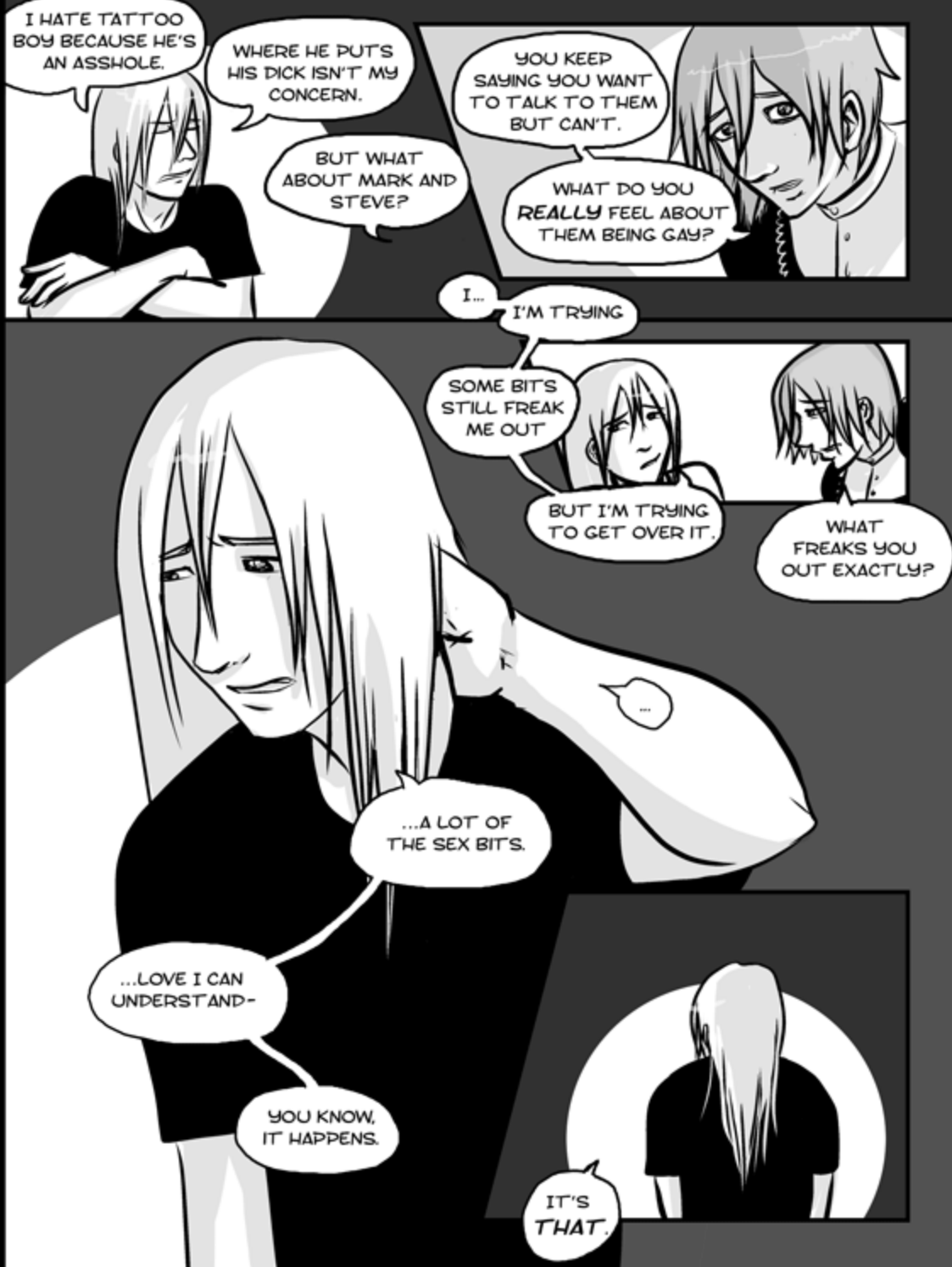
SURE PHONE WOULD HAVE  
BEEN SAFER, BUT I FELT  
THAT I OWED IT TO HIM.

I.... OKAY.









WHY ARE YOU  
SCARED OF THE SEX  
PARTS?!

T-THERE'S THE  
PROSTATE

AND WELL! IF THE SEX  
WASN'T GOOD WHY  
WOULD GAYS DO IT?

I..

I'VE HAD SOME  
EXPERIENCE THERE.

IT... WASN'T  
GOOD.

YOU'VE HAD  
SOME... ?

OH.

OHH.

OH JAMIE-

IT WASN'T  
TOO BAD.

I'M GETTING  
OVER IT-

BUT IT'S HARD NOT  
TO ASSOCIATE...  
\*SIGH\*

I'M TRYING.

I REALLY AM,

AND I WANT TO BE  
WITH YOU..

THEN JAMIE TOLD  
ME SOME THINGS.

THINGS THAT MADE ME REALISE  
THAT I NEEDED TO BREAK UP WITH  
HIM, FOR BOTH OF OUR SAKES.



